

# CHINA



# MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

"Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

With which is incorporated The

VOL. XXXIV. No. 4563. 號六十月二年八十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1878.

日五十月正年庚戌

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

## AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON:—F. ALLEN, 8, Clement's Lane,  
Lombard Street, GEORGE STREET, 30,  
CORNHILL. GORDON & GORDON, Leadenhall  
Street, E. C. BATES, HENDY & CO.,  
4, Old Jewry, E. C. BAKER & CO.,  
180 & 184, Leadenhall Street.  
PARIS AND EUROPE:—LEON DE ROBERT,  
19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.  
NEW YORK:—ANDREW WILD, 133, Nassau  
Street.  
AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW  
ZEALAND:—GORDON & GORDON, Mel-  
bourne and Sydney.  
SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports  
generally:—BANK & BLACK, San Fran-  
cisco.  
SINGAPORE AND STRAITS:—BAYLE &  
CO., Singapore. C. HENRIER &  
CO., Manila.  
CHINA:—SWANSON, CAMERON & CO.,  
Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLSON & CO.,  
Fuzhou, HENDER & CO., Shanghai,  
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY  
& WALKER, Yokohama, LANE, CRAW-  
FORD & CO.

## Bank.

### HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars.  
RESERVE FUND, 1,000,000 Dollars.

#### CORPORATE DIRECTORS.

Chairman—F. D. BARBOON, Esq.  
Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.  
E. R. BELLING, Esq. H. W. KESWICK, Esq.  
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq. ADAM LIND, Esq.  
WILHELM REINHOLD, Esq.  
H. HOFFMANN, Esq.

#### CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.  
Shanghai, EDWIN CAMERON, Esq.  
LONDON BANKERS.—London and Country Bank.

#### HONGKONG.

##### INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:—  
For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " 4 " " "  
" 12 " 5 " " "

##### LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,  
No. 1, Queen's Road East,  
Hongkong, February 14, 1878.

## For Sale.

### LAMBERT, ATKINSON & CO. HAVE FOR SALE.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF  
AMERICAN COOKING & PARLOUR  
STOVES.

#### TENDERS AND FIRE IRONS.

Superior California LAMBSWOOL  
BLANKETS.  
FAIRBANK'S SCALES, from 400 lb.  
to 2,500 lb.  
BRUSSELS and TAPESTRY CAR-  
PETS, various patterns.  
VELVET and TAPESTRY SOFA  
CARPETS and RUGS.  
DOOR MATS.  
HORSE BLANKETS.  
Central and Pin-fire CARTRIDGE  
CASES.  
Gun-WADS, PERCUSSION CAPS.

STATIONERY, of every description.  
BOOKS.

#### WORKS OF REFERENCE.

NOVELS. SCHOOL BOOKS.  
SHEET MUSIC and SONGS.

French APPLES, and LEMONS.  
SALMON BELLIES, in Kits.  
MACKEREL, TONGUES & SOUNDS.  
Family PIG PORK, and Prime Mess  
BEEF, in Kegs 25 lb. each.  
Caviare, SARDINES, and Spiced  
ANCHOVIES.  
Prime American BACON and HAMS.  
Cutting's JAMS and JELLIES Assorted.  
GRAHAM FLOUR, CORN MEAL,  
RYE MEAL, &c., &c.  
Canned Dessert FRUITS.  
Compressed CORNED BEEF, and  
BEEF TONGUES.  
PICKLED SALMON, in Quantities to  
suit Purchasers.  
CROSBY & BLACKWELL'S OILMAN'S  
STORES, of every kind; Fresh Supplies  
received by every Steamer.  
CLARET in Cask (BANDON), Superior  
Quality.  
BARCLAY PERKIN'S PORTER, in Hogs-  
heads and Kilderkins.  
GUINNESS'S STOUT, Bottled by E. & J.  
BURKE, in Pints and Quarts.  
Bass PALE ALE, Bottled by CARRISON  
and SANDERS, in Pints and Quarts.  
&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, January 3, 1878.

#### COAL.

### BEST QUALITY CARDIFF STEAM COAL.

Apply to BATTLES & Co.,  
Hongkong, December 4, 1877.

## Auctions.

### FURNITURE SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have  
been instructed by Lieut.-Col.  
SHERVINGTON, A.C.G., to sell by Public  
Auction, at his Residence "Craigelachie,"  
ON

#### MONDAY,

the 18th February, 1878, at 2 o'clock  
p.m.

The whole of the HOUSEHOLD  
FURNITURE, comprising: Drawing-  
room Chairs, Couches, Mirrors, Side  
Tables, Pictures, Whatnots, Lamps, &c.  
Dining Table and Chairs, Sideboards,  
Crockery, Glass-ware and Electro-plated  
Ware, &c. Bedsteads, Wardrobes, Chests  
of Drawers, Toilet Glasses, Dressing  
Tables, Washstands, &c., &c.

A Semi-grand PIANO, by COLLARD  
and COLLARD.

A collection of Choice Plants in Pots.  
Ladies' and Gentlemen's Sedan Chairs.  
A Dog Cart, with Hickory Wheels,  
Lamps, &c. &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued.  
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery  
in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7.

All Lots, with all faults and errors of  
description, at purchaser's risk on the fall  
of the hammer.  
Hongkong, February 9, 1878. fe18

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instruc-  
tions to sell by Public Auction, on

#### TUESDAY,

the 19th February, 1878, at 2 o'clock  
p.m., at his Sales Rooms, Queen's Road,—

An Invoice of CHINESE and  
JAPANESE WARE, comprising:  
Bronzes, Porcelain Vases and Cups, Tea  
Sets, Ornaments, Lacquered Cabinets,  
Boxes, Plates and Stands, Tortoise-shell  
Ware, Ivory Inlaid Cabinets, Inlaid  
Handkerchief Boxes, &c.

Assorted Silk Handkerchiefs, Em-  
broided Caps and Cushions, Crapes,  
Shawls and Scarves, Black and Coloured  
Silk, &c., &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery  
in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7.

All Lots, with all faults and errors of  
description, at purchaser's risk on the fall  
of the hammer.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,  
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, February 14, 1878. fe19

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

LAMBERT, ATKINSON & Co. have received instructions to sell  
by Public Auction,  
On a Date hereafter to be named.

The British Barque  
"ALPHINGTON,"

of 326 Tons Register, or of about 8,000  
piculs Carrying Capacity, with all her  
TACKLE, APPAREL and INVENTORY.

The Vessel was Built under Lloyd's  
special survey at Berwick-on-Tweed in  
1856, Classed 12 years A. 1. at Lloyd's  
and continued in 1868 A. 1. for 8 years.

She was Remetalled over Felt in Lon-  
don in July, 1875.

TERMS.—One-third of the purchase  
money to be paid on fall of the hammer,  
the remainder upon Transfer being  
effected. The Vessel is at Purchaser's  
risk immediately after fall of hammer.

Hongkong, January 23, 1877.

## Intimations.

### THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

HENRY B. HYDE, President.  
J. W. ALEXANDER, Vice-President.  
SAMUEL BORROW, Secretary.  
A. A. HAYES, Jr., General Manager, for  
China and Japan.

#### PRINCIPAL OFFICE,

120, Broadway, New York.

Assets.....\$51,700,000  
Surplus.....\$ 5,500,000

THE Undersigned having been appointed  
Agents in Hongkong, China, for the  
above Company, are prepared to Accept  
Blanks at greatly reduced rates and upon  
terms very favourable to the assured.

For full information and particulars,  
apply to

OLYPHANT & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, January 21, 1878.

### THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

TENDERS are invited for a LEASE of  
the HONGKONG HOTEL, the present  
Five-yearly Lease expiring on the 31st  
August, 1878.

SEALED TENDERS to  
be sent in on or before the 31st March,  
1878, to the Secretary of the HONGKONG  
HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED, who will supply  
any information required.

By Order of the Directors,  
LOUIS HAUSCHILD,  
Secretary.  
Hongkong, September 15, 1877. sp1

## Intimations.

### LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

#### GENERAL STOREKEEPERS.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

NEWS AGENTS.

AUCTIONEERS.

Agents for

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

THE HOME NEWS.

General Commission Agents.

Commissions and Orders from the Coast  
and Out-ports attended to with care  
and promptness.

Hongkong, February 9, 1878.

### HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

#### NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE DIVIDEND at the Rate of 8% or  
\$2.25 per SHARE, declared at the  
Ordinary Half-yearly Meeting of Share-  
holders held this Day, will be Payable at  
the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING COR-  
PORATION on and after MONDAY, the 28th  
Instant.

Shareholders are requested to apply at  
the Office of the Company for Warrants.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
P. A. DA COSTA,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, January 25, 1878.

### THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

#### NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Ninth Ordinary Annual MEETING  
of SHAREHOLDERS in the above  
Company will be held at the Office of the  
Company, No. 7, Queen's Road, on MON-  
DAY, the 18th February next, at Three  
o'clock in the Afternoon, to receive a State-  
ment of Accounts for the Year 1877, the  
Report of the General Managers, and to  
elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,  
General Managers,  
HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO.,  
LIMITED.  
Hongkong, January 26, 1878. fe18

### THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

#### NOTICE.

THE Transfer BOOKS of the Company  
will be CLOSED from the 4th to  
the 18th February next, both days in-  
cluded.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,  
General Managers,  
HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO.,  
LIMITED.  
Hongkong, January 26, 1878. fe18

#### NOTIFICATION.

A COPY of the JURY LIST for 1878,  
is posted at the SUPREME COURT  
House for inspection.

Notice of any Inaccuracies, Omissions,  
Objections, &c., must be given to the  
Registrar of the Supreme Court on or  
before FRIDAY, the 16th day of February,  
A.D. 1878, in accordance with the pro-  
visions of Section 8 of Ordinance No. 11  
of 1864.

It is further notified, that no person  
whose name is on the List as a Juror will  
be excused from Service on the ground of  
any exemption to which he may be entitled,  
or on the ground of any want of qualifica-  
tion, unless such exemption shall have been  
claimed and established, or such want of  
qualification shall have been duly proved,  
at or before the time above specified.

C. B. PLUNKET,  
Registrar.  
Hongkong, February 4, 1878.

#### A CARD.

DR. W. C. EASTLAKE, DENTIST,  
can be Consulted at his Rooms,  
No. 1, Alexandra Terrace, daily from  
10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Hongkong, February 5, 1878. mo5

#### DENTAL NOTICE.

DR. ROGERS begs to say that he has  
RETURNED, and is now ready to  
receive Patients.

Hongkong, November 22, 1877.

### KWONG HING CHEUNG & Co.,

COAL MERCHANTS.

Have always on hand for Sale every  
description of COAL at Moderate Prices,  
and all Orders addressed to him at 67,  
Praya, or to Mr. Far Jack, at 30, Hing  
Lung Street, will receive immediate atten-  
tion.

Hongkong, March 19, 1877. mo19

## Intimations.

### HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

#### NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE DIVIDEND declared for the Half-  
year ending 31st December last, at  
the rate of (£1 sgd.) ONE POUND STERLING  
per Share of £125, is PAYABLE on and  
after FRIDAY, the 15th Current, at the  
Office of the Corporation, where Share-  
holders are requested to apply for Warrants.

By Order of the Court of Directors,  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, February 14, 1878.

### HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL FLOWER and VEGE-  
TABLE SHOW will be held in the  
PUBLIC GARDENS on FRIDAY, the 22nd,  
and SATURDAY, the 23rd February.

ADMISSION.  
FIRST DAY.....ONE DOLLAR.  
SECOND DAY.....FIFTY CENTS.

Payment at the Gates, or Tickets may  
be had of MESSRS. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.  
Any information required by intending  
Exhibitors can be obtained by applying to  
W. M. B. ARTHUR,  
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, February 7, 1878. fe28

## WANTED.

TO RENT from the 1st of MARCH for  
a month or two, A FURNISHED  
HOUSE on the Hill, if possible with  
Garden.  
Address: "Furnished House," care of  
Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, February 14, 1878.

## NOTICE.

A. MILLAR & Co.,  
PLUMBERS, and GAS FITTERS,  
Queen's Road East,  
HONGKONG.

September 15, 1877.

## Shipping.

### Steamers.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & FOCHOW.  
The Steamship  
"TAIWAN,"  
Captain M. YOUNG, will be de-  
spatched for the above Ports on  
SUNDAY, the 17th Instant, at Daylight,  
instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
DOUGLAS LIPRAIK & Co.  
Hongkong, February 14, 1878. fe17

### FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship  
"GLENROY,"  
Captain DONALDSON, will be  
despatched for the above  
Port on MONDAY, the 18th Instant, at  
Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.  
Hongkong, February 15, 1878. fe18

### FOR SHANGHAI (DIRECT).

The Steamship  
"SHEN NANZING,"  
will be despatched as above  
on TUESDAY, the 19th  
Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.  
Hongkong, February 13, 1878. fe19

FOR PORT DARWIN, COOKTOWN,  
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE.

The Eastern and Australian  
Steam Co.'s Steamer  
"NUEMANN,"  
will be despatched as above  
on or about the 20th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, February 5, 1878.

## NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship  
"TALISMAN,"  
Comdt. DE LA MARCHIE, will be  
despatched for YOKO-  
HAMA shortly after the arrival of the next  
French Mail.

H. DE POUEY,  
Agent.  
Hongkong, February 15, 1878.

## NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship  
"AMAZON,"  
Comdt. MORTENHALL, will be  
despatched for SHANGHAI  
shortly after her arrival from Europe.

H. DE POUEY,  
Agent.  
Hongkong, February 15, 1878.

## Shipping.

### Steamers.

#### MONTHLY SERVICE.

TO PORT DARWIN, COOKTOWN,  
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE,  
Taking Cargo and Passengers for all Aus-  
tralian and New Zealand Ports, TAS-  
MANIA, FIJI and NEW CALEDONIA.

The Australasian Steam  
Navigation Company's Char-  
tered Steamship  
"BERTHA,"  
E. G. LANGLEY, Commander, will be de-  
spatched as above on SATURDAY, the  
23rd Instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, February 1, 1878. fe28

FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG VIA  
SUEZ CANAL.

The German Steamship  
"GALATHEA,"  
BOHME, Master, will be despatched  
as above towards the end of  
February, 1878.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
WM. PUSTAU & Co.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, January 29, 1878.

FOR MANILA.  
The Spanish Steamship  
"BUTUAN,"  
will have immediate despatch  
for the above Port.

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
J. Y. V. REAW,  
Agent.

Hongkong, February 4, 1878.

## Sailing Vessels.

FOR VICTORIA (V. L.)  
The 41 American 3-m. Schooner  
"MIGNON,"  
Capt. SOULE, having the greater  
portion of her Cargo engaged,  
will have immediate despatch as above.

For Freight, apply to  
ROZARIO & Co.  
Hongkong, February 9, 1878.

FOR LONDON.  
The 100 41 British Ship  
"BROOMHALL,"  
H. BATE, Master, will load  
here and have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
MEYER & Co.  
Hongkong, January 7, 1878.

FOR LONDON.  
(To follow the Broomhall).  
The 41 British Bark  
"TALON,"  
DAVID BARK, Master, will load  
here and have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
MEYER & Co.  
Hongkong, February 8, 1878.

FOR LONDON.  
The 41 American Ship  
"ALICE M. MINOTT,"  
WHITMORE, Master, will have  
quick despatch for the above  
Port.

For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.  
Hongkong, February 8, 1878.

FOR PORTLAND (OREGON).  
The 41 British Ship  
"CITY OF HALIFAX,"  
EVANS, Master, will load here  
for the above Port, and will have  
quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.  
Hongkong, January 30, 1878.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.  
The 41 American Bark  
"B. F. WATSON,"  
HAWKINS, Master, will load here  
for the above Port, and will have  
immediate despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.  
Hongkong, January 30, 1878.

FOR NEW YORK.  
The 41 German Bark  
"NAGARA,"  
WISNIEWSKI, Master, will load  
here for the above Port, and will have  
immediate despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.  
Hongkong, January 30, 1878.

FOR PORTLAND (OREGON).  
The 41 British Bark  
"LADY BOWEN,"  
FOX, Master, will load here  
for the above Port, and will have  
quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.  
Hongkong, January 30, 1878.

FOR HAMBURG.  
The 41 British Bark  
"ANTIPODES,"  
Captain WYTHE, will load here  
as above.

For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.  
Hongkong, January 28, 1878.



## Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.  
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP  
COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA  
OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING  
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamer **ALASKA**  
will be despatched for San Francisco,  
Yokohama, on MONDAY, the 18th  
Instant, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers, and  
Freight, for Japan, the United States, and  
Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for trans-  
portation to Yokohama and other Japan  
Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and  
Inland Offices of the United States via Over-  
land Routes, to Havana, Trinidad, and  
Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central  
and South America by the Company's and  
connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to  
England, France, and Germany by all  
trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

A REDUCTION OF TWENTY PER  
CENT on regular rates is granted to  
OFFICERS of the ARMY and NAVY,  
and MEMBERS of the CIVIL and  
CONSULAR SERVICES in COMMISSION.

Freight will be received on board until  
4 p.m., of 17th Instant. Parcel Packages  
will be received at the office until 5 p.m.  
same day; all Parcel Packages should be  
marked to address in full, value of same  
in regular Invoices to accompany Overland  
Cargo should be sent to the Company's  
Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the  
Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage  
and Freight, apply to the Agency of the  
Company, No. 9, Praya Central.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, February 8, 1878. fcl8

## NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.  
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR  
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,  
POINT DE GALLE,  
ADEM, SUEZ, ISMAILIA, PORT  
SAID, NAPLES, AND  
MARSILLIES;  
ALSO,  
BOMBAY, MAHE, ST. DENIS, AND  
PORT LOUIS.

ON THURSDAY, the 21st February,  
1878, at Noon, the Company's  
S. S. **YANGTSE**, Commandant RAPAZEL,  
with MALES, PASSENGERS, SPOILS,  
and CARGO, will leave this Port for the  
above places.

Cargo and Spoils will be registered for  
London as well as for Marseilles, and  
accepted in transit through Marseilles for  
the principal places of Europe.

Cargo will be received on board until  
4 p.m., Spoils and Parcels until 3 p.m.  
on the 20th February, 1878. (Parcels are  
not to be sent on board; they must be left  
at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are re-  
quired.

For further particulars, apply at the  
Company's Office.

H. DE POUREY,  
Agent.  
Hongkong, February 9, 1878. fcl21



STEAM FOR  
Singapore, Penang, Point de Galle,  
Aden, Suez, Malta, Brindisi,  
Ancona, Venice, Mediterranean  
Ports, Southampton,  
and London.

Also,  
Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, and  
Australia.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship  
**INDUS**, Captain S. D. SHILLARD, will leave  
this Port, THURSDAY, the 28th February,  
at Noon.

Cargo and General Cargo for London, will  
be conveyed via Bombay without tranship-  
ment, arriving one week later than by the  
direct route. Spoils and Valuables will  
be transferred to the Calcutta steamer at Galle.

For further Particulars, apply to  
A. LIND, Superintendent.  
Hongkong, February 14, 1878. fcl23

Occidental & Oriental Steam-  
Ship Company.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND  
PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED  
STATES AND EUROPE,  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
CENTRAL

and  
UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING  
RAILROAD COMPANIES

AND  
ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE S. S. **"BELGIO"** will be de-  
spatched for San Francisco via Yoko-  
hama, on about FRIDAY, the 1st March,  
at 5 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers for  
Japan, the United States and Europe.

Connection is made at Yokohama, with  
Steamers from Shanghai.

Freight will be received on Board until  
4 p.m. of the 28th Instant. PARCEL  
PACKAGES will be received at the Office  
until 5 p.m. same day; all Parcel Packages  
should be marked to address in full; value  
of same is required.

A REDUCTION is made on RETURN PAS-  
SAGE TICKETS.

For further information as to Freight  
and Passage, apply to the Agency of the  
Company, No. 37, Queen's Road Central.

G. B. EMORY, Agent.  
Hongkong, February 1, 1878. fcl25

## Notices to consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.  
P. & O. S. N. Co.'s S. S. LOMBARDY.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-  
named Vessel, from Bombay and Inter-  
mediate Ports, and in connection with the  
Steamers **HYDASPES** from London, and  
**HINDOSTAN** from Calcutta, are hereby  
informed that their Goods are being landed  
and stored at their risk in the Company's  
Godowns, at West Point, whence delivery  
can be obtained from this date.

Goods not delivered by the 19th Instant  
will be subject to rent.

ADAM LIND,  
Superintendent.  
Hongkong, February 12, 1878. fcl17

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.  
BRITISH BARQUE HARKAWAY,  
FROM LONDON.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-  
named Vessel are hereby requested to  
send their Bills of Lading to the Under-  
signed for countersignature, and to take  
immediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the  
vessel will be landed and stored at Con-  
signees' risk and expense.

RUSSELL & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, February 13, 1878. fcl20

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.  
THE BRITISH BARK GLOBE,  
FROM ANTWERP.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-  
named Vessel are requested to send  
in their Bills of Lading to the Under-  
signed for countersignature, and to take im-  
mediate delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the  
Vessel will be landed and stored at Con-  
signees' risk and expense.

MEYER & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, February 14, 1878. fcl21

## FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE S. S. **Glenroy** having arrived from  
the above Ports, Consignees of  
Cargo are informed that their Goods are  
being landed at their risk into the Godowns  
of the Under-  
signed, whence and/or from  
the Wharf or Boats delivery may be ob-  
tained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded to  
Shanghai, unless notice be given before  
Noon To-morrow.

Goods remaining undelivered after the  
21st Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.  
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by  
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, February 14, 1878. fcl21

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of the following Cargo  
are requested to send in their Bills of  
Lading to the Under-  
signed for countersignature, and take immediate delivery.  
This Cargo has been landed and stored at  
their risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

H. DE POUREY,  
Agent.  
Ex "Ada."  
EG Mr A. Marty, 11 pieces Wood, } from  
3 cases Shells, } Saigon.  
FP (in diamond) No. 177/8 Order, } from  
2 cases Hats, } London.

JS (in heart) No. 326/75 Order, } from  
50 bales Yarn, } London.  
Y  
OSH No. 1/5 Mr C. S. Haden, } from  
5 cases Wine, } Marseilles.  
EG No. 10 Mr E. Glottli, } from  
1 box Music, } Marseilles.

Hongkong, February 13, 1878.

## INSURANCES.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of  
China and Japan, and at Singapore,  
Siam, and Penang.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance  
granted at the rates of Premium current at  
the above mentioned Ports.

NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEE.

JAS. B. COUGHTRE, Secretary.  
Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY.

(FIRE AND LIFE.)

CAPITAL—Two Millions Sterling.

POLICIES against the Risk of FIRE on  
Buildings or on Goods stored therein, on  
Goods in Mats, on Goods on Board  
Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Har-  
bour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Insurances will be re-  
solved, and transmitted to the Directors  
for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on  
first class lives up to £1000 on a Single  
Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of pro-  
posals or any other information, apply to  
ARNOLD, KARRBERG & Co.  
Agents Hongkong & Canton.  
Hongkong, January 4, 1867.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY.

THE Under-  
signed are prepared to grant  
Policies against Fire to the extent of  
£45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored  
therein, at current local rates, subject to a  
Discount of 20% on the Premium.

NORTON & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, January 1, 1876.

## Insurances.

YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSO-  
CIATION.

CAPITAL—Fully Paid-up.....£420,000  
PERMANENT RESERVE.....230,000  
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.....75,000  
Total Capital and accumu-  
lations this date.....£725,000

Directors:  
F. B. FORBES, Esq., Chairman.  
M. W. BORD, Esq., J. KERR, Esq.,  
M. P. EVANS, Esq., C. LUCAS, Esq.

Secretaries:  
Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Shanghai.  
London-Bankers:  
Messrs. BARKING BROTHERS & Co.

Agencies in:  
HONGKONG, LONDON, SAN FRANCISCO, and  
the Principal Ports in the East.

POLICIES granted on Marine Risks to  
all parts of the World, at current  
rates.

Subject to a charge of 12% for interest  
on Shareholders' Capital, ALL THE PROFITS  
OF THE UNDERWRITING BUSINESS will be  
annually distributed among all Contribu-  
tors of Business in proportion to the  
premium paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, October 1, 1877. fcl

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY.  
(LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on  
Marine Risks to all parts of the World.  
In accordance with the Company's Articles  
of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits  
are distributed annually to Contributors,  
whether Shareholders or not, in proportion  
to the net amount of Premiums contributed  
by each, the remaining third being carried  
to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT & Co.,  
General Agents.  
Hongkong, April 17, 1878.

## ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Under-  
signed, Agents for the above  
Company, are prepared to grant In-  
surances at current rates.

MELOCHERS & Co.,  
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.  
Hongkong, October 27, 1874.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE  
INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and  
Special Act of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1809.  
CAPITAL £2,000,000.

THE Under-  
signed, Agents at Hongkong  
for the above Company, are prepared  
to grant Policies against FIRE, to the  
extent of £10,000 on any Building, or  
on Merchandise in the same, at the  
usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20  
per cent.

GILMAN & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, July 6, 1875.

SHEONG ON FIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

Directors:  
KWOK AGHEONG, Merchant.  
PANG YIM, Merchant.  
HO SAM, of Hop Yik Chan, Merchant.  
LOO YEE, of the Yee On Hong, Merchant.  
LEE SING, of Lai Hing Firm, Merchant.  
CHANG SING YONG, Merchant.  
CHOY CHAN, Merchant.

Manager—HO AMEL.

POLICIES against FIRE granted on  
Buildings and on Goods stored  
therein at CURRENT RATES, subject to  
Discount of 20% on the Premium.

OFFICE, 48, Bonham Strand.  
Hongkong, August 23, 1877. fcl23

## THE LONDON ASSURANCE

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

of  
His Majesty King George The First,  
A. D. 1720.

THE Under-  
signed having been appointed  
Agents for the above Corporation are  
prepared to grant Insurances as follows:

Marine Department.  
Policies at current rates payable either  
here, in London or at the principal Ports  
of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.  
Policies issued for short or long periods at  
current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.

Life Department.  
Policies issued for sums not exceeding  
£25,000 at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,  
Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE  
COMPANY OF MANCHESTER  
AND LONDON.

THE Under-  
signed have been appointed  
Agents for the above Company at  
Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai  
and Hankow, and are prepared to grant  
Insurances at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,  
Hongkong, October 14, 1869.

## To Let.

## SMALL GODOWN IN DUNDRELL STREET.

Apply to  
KYLE & BAIN,  
[See House.]  
Hongkong, February 7, 1878. fcl27

## TO LET.

HOUSE No. 9, Queen's Road Central,  
with Godowns attached.  
House No. 2, Peddar's Hill.  
House No. 2, Seymour Terrace.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.  
Hongkong, January 4, 1878.

## TO LET.

THE Dwelling House and Office No. 1,  
D'Aguilar Street, lately in the occupa-  
tion of Messrs DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.  
Three Offices, in Club Chambers,  
The Bungalow, No. 1, Old Bailey Street.

Apply to  
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.  
Hongkong, February 6, 1878.

## NOW READY.

A CHINESE DICTIONARY IN THE  
CANTONESE DIALECT. Part I,  
A to K, with Introduction. Royal 8vo,  
pp. 202.—By ERNEST JOHN EYER, Ph.D.  
Tubingen.

Price: Two DOLLARS AND A HALF.  
To be had from MESSRS LAMB, ORAWFORD  
& Co., Hongkong and Shanghai; and MESSRS  
KILBY & WALSH, Shanghai.  
Hongkong, February 8, 1877.

## Intimations.

W. BALL,  
CHINA DISPENSARY.

IMPORTER OF DRUGS, CHEMICALS,  
DRUGGISTS' Sundries, TOILET  
REQUISITES, PATENT MEDI-  
CINES AND PERFUMES.

Prescriptions Dispensed with Carefulness,  
and Prompt Attention.

PRAYA WEST, HONGKONG,  
Near the Canton Steamer's Wharf.  
Hongkong, July 13, 1876.

## ESTATE OF DODD &amp; Co.

AT the MEETING held on the 13th  
Instant at Messrs DODD & Co.'s  
Offices, the following RESOLUTIONS  
were carried:

1. That the affairs of the said DODD  
& Co. shall be Liquidated by arrangement,  
and not in Bankruptcy.

2. That FRANCIS CHOMLEY be, and he  
is hereby appointed Trustee.

3. That H. ABERNETHY and EDMUND  
FRY be, and they are hereby appointed a  
Committee of Inspection.

ALL PAYMENTS on account of the  
Estate, it is requested, will be Paid to the  
order of the Under-  
signed.

F. CHOMLEY,  
Trustee for the Estate of  
Dodd & Co.  
Amoy, January 14, 1878.

## DODD &amp; Co.'s ESTATE.

A FIRST DIVIDEND OF TWENTY  
PER CENT. will be paid at Amoy on  
the 20th Instant, at the Office of the Agents  
of the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AU-  
STRALIA & CHINA.

DEBTS not Proved before the 15th  
Instant will be excluded from the Divid-  
end.

FRANCIS CHOMLEY,  
Trustee.

Amoy, 5th Feb., 1878. fcl20

## WASHING BOOKS.

(In English and Chinese.)  
WASHERMAN'S BOOKS, for the use  
of Ladies and Gentlemen, are now  
ready at this Office—Price, \$1 each.

CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

## AH YON,

SHIPS' COMPAREDORE AND  
STEVEDORE,  
No. 57, Praya West.

SHIPPING SUPPLIED WITH ALL KINDS OF  
COAL, WATER, BALLAST, FRESH  
PROVISIONS & OILMAN'S  
STORES.

Of the best quality and at the shortest notice.  
Hongkong, May 1, 1876.

## THE CHINESE MAIL.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING IN THE  
Chinese Mail.

TWO cents a character for the first 100  
characters, and one cent a character  
beyond the first 100, for first insertion, and  
half price for repetitions during the first  
week. Subsequent weeks' insertions will  
be charged only one half the amount of the  
first week's charge. Advertisements for  
half a year and longer will be allowed a  
deduction of 25 per cent on the total amount,  
and contracts for more favourable terms  
can be made.

Efforts have been made to establish  
Agents for circulating the Chinese Mail in all  
the ports and in the interior of China, all  
the ports in Japan, in Saigon, Singapore,  
Penang, Calcutta, Batavia, Manila, the  
Philippines, Australia, San Francisco, Peru  
and other places which Chinese frequent.  
When the list of Agencies is completed,  
it will be published. Agents have been  
already established in most of the above  
places, and in important ports more than  
one agent has been appointed at each.

CHUN AYIN,  
Manager.  
Hongkong, February 23, 1874.

## Intimations.

G. FALCONER & Co.,  
WATCH AND CHRONOMETER  
MANUFACTURERS,

AND  
JEWELLERS.  
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS, CHARTS  
AND BOOKS.

45, Queen's Road Central.  
Hongkong, August 20, 1877. fcl20

## AFONG,

PHOTOGRAPHER,  
by appointment, to  
H. E. SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY,  
GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG;

and to  
H. I. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS  
OF RUSSIA,

Wyndham Street, formerly ATLANTIC CLUB.

HAS on hand the Largest and Best  
collection of Views of China, Photo-  
graphic Albums, Frames, Cases, &c., of  
assorted sizes. Ex S. S. Tyne, Revolving  
Standard Albums, Armorial Monograms  
and Postage Stamp Albums, Russia Leather,  
Velvet and carved-wood Cabinet Portraits  
only, Portraits of the Generals of the Rus-  
sian-Turkish War, Eminent British  
Statesmen, the two Chinese Ambassadors,  
in Cabinet and Carte de Visite sizes.  
Coloured Portraits of English Ladies.

Hongkong, August 24, 1877.

## NOTICE.

THE CHINESE MAIL.

FROM and after the Chinese New Year's  
day (February 17, 1874) the Chinese  
Mail will be issued DAILY instead of TRI-  
WEEKLY as heretofore. No change, how-  
ever, will be made in the price of subscrip-  
tion, which will remain at \$4 per annum.

The charges for advertisements are now  
assimilated to those of the Chinese Mail.  
The unusual success which has attended  
the Chinese Mail makes it an admirable  
medium for advertisers.

The Conductors guarantee an eventual  
circulation of one thousand copies. It is  
already the most influential native journal  
published, and enjoys considerable prestige  
at the Ports of China and Japan, and at  
Singapore, Penang, Calcutta, San Francis-  
co and Australia.

For terms, &c., address  
MA CHUN AYIN,  
Manager.

China Mail Office,  
17th February, 1874.

OFFICE OF THE SHANGHAI STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY,  
IN LIQUIDATION.

A SECOND RETURN OF CAPITAL at  
the Rate of FIVE TALLS per  
SHARE will be made to Shareholders of  
record on the 1st October, Payable at the  
Office of the Liquidators, on the 8th Inst.

Warrants will be delivered by the Under-  
signed to Shareholders or their lawful  
representatives on presentation of Share  
Certificates for Endorsement.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company  
will be CLOSED from the 2nd to the 8th  
Instant, inclusive.

By Order,  
RUSSELL & Co.,  
Liquidators.

Shanghai, October 2, 1877.

PRICE \$6.  
THE TREATY PORTS  
OF  
China and Japan.

A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE OPEN PORTS OF  
THOSE COUNTRIES, TOGETHER WITH PE-  
KING, YEDO, HONGKONG AND MACAO.

FORMING A GUIDE BOOK & VADE ME-  
CUM FOR TRAVELLERS, MERCHANTS,  
AND RESIDENTS IN GENERAL.



## POSTAL RATES.

[Subjoined we give the postal rates now in force for transmission of correspondence to all parts of the world. Detailed rules affecting the transmission of packets, parcels, &c., will be found annexed, together with a number of miscellaneous and useful notices.]

## Hongkong Rates of Postage.

(Revised Nov. 9th, 1877.)

In the following Statements and Tables the Rates are given in cents, and are, for Letters, per half ounce, for Books and Patterns, per two ounces.

Newspapers over four ounces in weight are charged as double, treble, &c., as the case may be, but such papers or packets of papers may be sent at Book Rate. Two Newspapers must not be folded together as one, nor must anything whatever be inserted except bona fide Supplements. Printed matter may, however, be enclosed, if the whole be paid at Book Rate. Prices Current may be paid either as Newspapers or Books.

N.E. means No Registration.

## Countries of the Postal Union.

The Union may be taken to comprise Europe, the United States, Brazil, India (including Ceylon, the Straits, and Aden), Japan, Egypt, Labuan, Mauritius, Seychelles, Jamaica, Trinidad, British Guiana, and Bermuda, with all French, Danish, Netherlands, Portuguese, and Spanish Colonies.

Countries not in the Union.—The chief countries not in the Union are: the Australasian Group, British North America, Africa (except French, &c., Colonies), and Central America.

## Postage to Union Countries.

General Rates, by any route:—  
Letters, 12 cents per oz.  
Registration, 8 cents.  
Newspapers, 2 cents each.  
Books and Patterns, 4 cents per 2 oz.

Exceptional rates, to the United Kingdom and Union Countries served through the United Kingdom via Brindisi only:—  
Letters, 16 cents per oz.  
Registration, 8 cents.  
Newspapers, 4 cents each.  
Books and Patterns, 6 cents per 2 oz.

There is no charge on redirected correspondence within the Postal Union.

## Postage to Non-Union Countries.

W. Africa, Falkland Islands, Lagos, Gold Coast, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Cape Verde Islands:—  
Letters, 22 28  
Registration, 12 12  
Newspapers, 4 6  
Books & Patterns, 8 10

Aspinwall, Panama:—  
Letters, 18 34 38  
Registration, None. None. None.  
Newspapers, 4 4 6  
Books & Patterns, 6 8 10

Canada, Vancouver, Prince Edward's Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia:—  
Letters, 12\* 16 20  
Registration, 8 12 12  
Newspapers, 2\* 4 6  
Books & Patterns, 4\* 6 8

Bahamas, Hayti:—  
Letters, 14 34 38  
Registration, None. None. None.  
Newspapers, 4 4 6  
Books & Patterns, 6 8 10

Bolivia, Chili, Ecuador, and Peru:—  
Letters, 30 46 50  
Registration, 6 6 8  
Books & Patterns, 14 10 12

Hawaiian Kingdom:—  
Letters, 16 16 20  
Registration, None. None. None.  
Newspapers, 4 4 6  
Books & Patterns, 8 6 8

R. India, (except as above) Ceylon, Rangoon, Madras, Bombay, Calcutta, and the Straits:—  
Letters, 26 34 38  
Registration, 6 6 8  
Books & Patterns, 14 10 12

Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji (n.a.), Natal, Cape, St. Helena, Ascension:—  
Letters, by Contract Packet 24; by Private Ship 12; Registration, 12; Newspapers, 2; Books and Patterns, 4.

\* A small extra charge is made on delivery.  
† Cannot be sent via San Francisco.

LOCAL AND TOWN POSTAGE.

Within any Town or Settlement, or between Hongkong, Canton, and Macao, in either direction, 2 6 2 2

Between any other two of the following places (through a British Office) viz.—Hongkong, Macao, Porto of China and Japan, Bangkok, Saigon, and the Philippines, by Private Ship, 4 8 2 2

Between the above, by Contract Mail, 8 8 2 4

Any publication fulfilling the conditions hereafter named can pass as a newspaper.

The conditions are as follows:—

1st. The publication must consist wholly or in great part of political or other news, or of articles relating thereto, or to other current topics, with or without advertisements.

2nd. It must be published in numbers at intervals of not more than 31 days, and must be printed on a sheet or sheets unattached.

3rd. The full title and date of publication must be printed at the top of the first page, and the whole or part of the title and date of publication at the top of every subsequent page; and this regulation applies to all publications.

4th. A supplement must consist wholly or in great part of matter like that of a newspaper, or of advertisements, printed on a sheet or sheets, or a piece or pieces of paper, unstitched; or wholly or in part of engravings, prints, or lithographs illustrating articles in the newspaper, and must have the title and date of publication of the newspaper printed at the top of every page; or, if it consists of engravings, prints, or lithographs, at the top of every sheet or side.

A packet containing two or more newspapers is not chargeable with a higher rate of postage than would be chargeable on a book packet of the same weight.

A newspaper posted unpaid, or a packet of newspapers posted either unpaid or insufficiently paid, is treated as an unpaid or insufficiently paid book packet of the same weight.

The postage must be prepaid either by an adhesive stamp, or by the use of a stamped wrapper.

No newspaper can now be sent through the post a second time for the original postage. For each transmission a fresh postage is required.

Every newspaper must be posted either without a cover (in which case it must not be fastened, whether by means of gum, water, sealing wax, postage stamp, or otherwise) or in a cover entirely open at both ends, so as to admit of easy removal for examination. If this rule be infringed the newspaper is treated as a letter.

Every newspaper must be so folded, as to admit of the title being readily inspected.

A newspaper or packet of newspapers which contains any enclosure except supplements is charged as a letter, unless the enclosure be such as might be sent at the book rate of postage, and the entire packet be sufficiently prepaid as a book packet, in which case it is allowed to pass.

A newspaper which has any letter, or any communication of the nature of a letter, written in it or upon its cover, is charged as an unpaid or insufficiently paid letter.

No packet of newspapers may be above 5 lbs. in weight, nor above two feet in length, one foot in width, nor one in depth.

A book-packet may contain any number of separate books or other publications (including printed or lithographed letters), photographs (when not on glass or in cases containing glass or any like substance), drawings, prints, or maps, and any quantity of paper, or any other substance in ordinary use for writing or printing upon; and the books or other publications, prints, maps, &c., may be either printed, written, engraved, lithographed, or plain, or any mixture of these. Further, all legitimate binding, mounting, or covering of a book, &c., or of a portion thereof, is allowed, whether such binding, &c. be loose or attached; as also rollers in the case of prints or maps, markers (whether of paper or otherwise) in the case of books, pens or pencils in the case of pocket-books, &c., and, in short, whatever is necessary for the safe transmission of such articles, or usually appertains thereto; but the binding, rollers, &c. must not be sent as a separate packet.

Circulars, &c., letters which are intended for transmission in identical terms to several persons, and the whole or the greater part of which is printed, engraved, or lithographed, may also be sent by book packet.

But a book-packet may not contain any letter, or communication of the nature of a letter, (whether separate or otherwise), unless it be a circular-letter or be wholly printed; nor any enclosure sealed or in any way closed against inspection; nor any other enclosure not allowed by Rule 3. If this rule be infringed, the entire packet is charged as a letter.

A book-packet may be posted either without a cover (in which case it must not be fastened, whether by means of gum, water, sealing wax, postage stamp, or otherwise), or in a cover entirely open at both ends, so as to admit of the contents being easily withdrawn for examination; or otherwise it is treated as a letter. For the greater security of the contents, however, it may be tied at the ends with string; Postmasters being authorized to cut the string in such cases, although if they do so they must again tie up the packet.

No book-packet may be above 5 lbs. in weight, nor above 24 inches in length, 12 inches in width, or 12 inches in depth, unless it be sent to or from one of the Government offices.

When, owing to a great and unusual influx of letters, books, &c., the transmission or delivery of the letters would be delayed if the whole mail were dealt with without distinction, book-packets may be kept back till the next despatch or delivery.

The limit of size for a book-packet addressed to any place abroad is 24 inches in length and 12 inches in width or depth.

PATTERNS.

They must not be of intrinsic value. This rule excludes all articles of a saleable nature, and indeed whatever may have a value of its own, apart from its mere use as a pattern; and the quantity of any material sent ostensibly as a pattern must not be so great that it can fairly be considered as having on this ground an intrinsic value.

Pattern and Sample Post to colonies and foreign countries is restricted to bona fide trade patterns or samples of merchandise, goods sent for sale, or in execution of an order (however small the quantity may be), or any articles sent by one private individual to another, which are not actual patterns or samples, are not admissible.

Patterns or samples, when practicable, must be sent in covers open at the ends, and in such a manner as to be easy of examination. But samples of seeds, drugs, and such like articles, which cannot be sent in covers of this kind, but such articles only, may be posted enclosed in boxes, or bags of linen, of other material, fastened in such a manner that they may be readily opened, or, in the case of seeds, &c., for the United States of America, Holland, and its possessions, Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Portugal, and its possessions, and Switzerland, in bags entirely closed, provided such closed bags are transparent, so

as to enable the Officers of the Post Office readily to satisfy themselves as to the nature of the contents.

There must be no writing or printing upon or in any packet except the address of the person for whom it is intended, the address of the sender, a trade mark or number, and the price of the articles.

Articles of intrinsic value must not be sent to any foreign country except United States; and in the case of France samples of elder down, raw or thread silk, woolen or goat's hair thread, vanilla, saffron, carmine, or henna, are considered to fall under this rule if they weigh more than three ounces; and up to this weight raw and spun silk, as well as coloured and twisted silk, may be sent to Germany.

The rule which forbids the transmission through the Post of any article likely to injure the contents of the Mail Bags or Boxes, or the person of any Officer of the Post Office, is, of course, applicable to the Pattern Post; and a packet containing anything of the kind will be stopped, and not sent to its destination. Articles such as the following have been occasionally posted as Patterns, and have been detained as unfit for the Post, viz.: Metal boxes, porcelain and China, fruit, vegetables, bunches of flowers, cuttings of plants, spurs, knives, scissors, needles, pins, pieces of machinery, sharp pointed instruments, samples of metals, samples of ore, samples in glass bottles, pieces of glass, acids of various kinds, cury combs, copper and steel engraving plates, and confectionery of all kinds.

Such articles as scissors, knives, razors, forks, steel pens, nails, keys, watch machinery, metal tubing, pieces of metal or ore, provided that they be packed and guarded in so secure a manner as to afford complete protection to the contents of the mail bags, and to the Officers of the Post Office, while at the same time they may be easily examined, may be sent as samples to the following countries, but to these alone: viz., the Azores, Belgium, Cape de Verde Islands, Denmark, Egypt, Germany, Holland, Madeira, Moldavia, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States, Wallachia, and the British Colonies.

A packet of patterns or samples sent to the Azores, Cape de Verde Islands, France, Madeira, Portugal, or by French packet, to Turkey, Syria, or Egypt, must not exceed 16 inches in length, width, or depth; a packet to any other place abroad must not exceed 24 inches in length or 12 inches in width or depth.

To provide the greatest possible facilities for posting Correspondence for Europe, &c., up to the latest moment before the departure of the French Packets, arrangements have been made for receiving at the Post Office late letters—except those to and through Australia—from 11.10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Each letter must bear a late fee of 18 cents extra postage.

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Corrected to Saturday, February 16, 1878.

*Exclusive of late Arrivals and Departures reported to-day.*

Butcher Meat.				Chinese Names.
Bacon, English, . . . lb.	500	—		猪
" Ama, Sugar cured, . . .	300	280		烟
" Foochow, new, . . .	200	180		猪
Beef, sirloin and prime cut, . . . cy.	150	140		猪
Beef Corned, . . . catty	130	120		肉
" Roast, . . .	140	130		牛
" Soup, . . .	80	80		肉
" Steak, . . .	140	130		肉
Bullocks' Brains, . . . per set	60	50		牛
" Tongue, fresh, each	275	250		牛
" " corned, . . .	320	300		牛
" Head, . . .	500	400		牛
" Heart, . . .	140	120		牛
" Hump, Salt . catty	130	120		牛
" Feet, . . . each	40	30		牛
" Kidneys, . . .	60	50		牛
" Tail, . . .	100	90		牛
" Liver, . . . catty	80	60		牛
" Tripe (undressed), catty	50	40		牛
Calves' Head and Feet, set	500	400		牛
Hams, American, . . . lb.	360	280		猪
" Chinese, . . .	200	150		猪
" English . . .	350	320		猪
Mutton Chop, . . .	180	160		羊
" Leg, . . .	180	160		羊
" Shoulder, . . .	140	130		羊
" Liver, . . .	130	120		羊
Pigs' Chittlings, . . . catty	60	50		猪
" Feet, . . .	100	90		猪
" Fry, . . .	110	100		猪
" Head, . . .	80	70		猪
" Heart, . . . each	50	40		猪
" Kidneys, . . .	70	60		猪
" Liver, . . . lb.	110	100		猪
Pork, Chop, . . . catty	150	140		猪
" Corned, . . .	150	140		猪
" Leg, . . .	150	140		猪
" Fat or Lard, . . .	120	110		猪
Sheeps' Head, and Feet, set	350	320		猪
" Heart, . . . each	50	40		羊
" Kidneys, . . .	60	50		羊
Sucking Pigs, . . .	1500	1000		猪
Sweet Bread, . . . catty	180	120		猪
Veal, . . . catty	140	130		牛
Poultry.				生口
Capons, . . . catty	180	170		雞
Ducks, . . . catty	140	130		鴨
Eggs, Hen . . . doz.	100	—		蛋
Fowls, . . . catty	160	150		雞
Geese, . . .	120	110		鴨
Partridges, . . . each	300	250		鴨
Pheasants, Canton, live, pair	\$1.50	1.25		鴨
Pigeons, . . . each	150	140		鴨
Quail, . . .	80	80		鴨
Rabbits, live, Canton, . . .	600	500		鴨
Snipes, . . . each	120	110		鴨
Teal, . . .	180	170		鴨
Turkeys, Cock, . catty	400	300		鴨
" Hen, . . .	300	280		鴨
Wild Duck, . . . each	350	300		鴨
Fish.				海鮮
Bombay Ducks, new, per hundred	400	300		鴨
Bream, . . . catty	90	80		魚
Catfish, . . .	100	90		魚
Codfish, Salt, . . .	200	180		魚
Crabs, . . .	200	100		蟹
Cuttle Fish, . . .	70	60		魚
Dace, . . .	100	90		魚
Dog Fish, . . .	80	70		魚
Dory, . . .	130	120		魚
Eels, Congor . . .	50	40		魚
" Yellow . . .	200	180		魚
File Fish, . . .	80	70		魚
Fresh Fish, Large . . .	150	140		魚
" Small . . .	80	70		魚
Frogs, . . .	250	200		魚
Garoupe, . . .	150	140		魚
Gudgeon, . . .	100	90		魚
Gurnard, . . .	130	110		魚
Haddock, . . .	110	100		魚
Herrings, fresh . . .	70	60		魚
" smoked . . . box	\$1.00	—		魚
King Crab, . . . catty	800	250		蟹
Live Fish, . . .	140	130		魚
Lobsters, . . .	100	90		蟹
Mackerel, . . .	90	80		魚
Mullet, . . .	90	80		魚
Oysters, . . .	110	100		蟹
Parrot Fish, . . .	150	140		魚
Perch, . . .	70	60		魚
Pike, . . .	140	130		魚
Plaice, . . .	110	100		魚
Pomfret, White . . .	140	130		魚
Pomfret, Black . . .	140	130		魚
Prawns, . . .	120	110		蝦
Ray, . . .	100	90		魚
Rock Fish, . . .	140	130		魚

Roach, . . . . .	catty	140	110	魚
Salmon, Canton, . . . . .	"	100	90	魚
" Salt-water, . . . . .	"	160	140	魚
Salt Fish, . . . . .	"	120	100	魚
Skate, . . . . .	"	60	50	魚
Shark, young . . . . .	"	80	70	魚
Shrimps, . . . . .	"	100	90	蝦
Snapper, . . . . .	"	100	90	魚
Soles, Fresh . . . . .	"	100	90	魚
Tench, . . . . .	"	80	70	魚
Turbot, . . . . .	"	150	140	魚
Turtles, small, fresh water, . .	"	360	320	魚
White Bait, . . . . .	"	100	90	魚
Whiting, . . . . .	"	110	100	魚
<b>Fruits.</b>				<b>菓子</b>
Aleurites, . . . . .	catty	50	40	石栗
Apples, Californian, . . . . .	"	260	150	平菓
Bananas, fragrant Puntl, . . . .	"	40	30	香蕉
Chestnuts, . . . . .	"	100	—	風香
Citron, . . . . .	"	100	60	菓
Cocoanuts . . . . .	each	50	40	椰子
Courants, . . . . .	bottle	400	350	細葡提子
" . . . . .	lb.	200	180	提子
Dates, . . . . .	bottle	500	400	椰棗
Figs, Dried, . . . . .	"	500	400	無花菓
Grapes, . . . . .	catty	400	—	鮮提子
Lemons, . . . . .	"	70	60	檸檬
Lichees, Dried, . . . . .	"	200	180	荔枝乾
Loong Ngau, Dried, . . . . .	"	400	800	蒜眼乾
Oranges, (Coolie) Chang . . . . .	"	40	80	橙
" Coolie Mandarin . . . . .	"	100	80	朱砂
" Mandarin, . . . . .	"	100	80	四季結
" Nutmeg, . . . . .	"	70	60	新會柑
" Sweet (Sun-woey) . . . . .	"	120	110	金木瓜
" Kam-kwat, . . . . .	"	60	50	木瓜
Papaw, . . . . .	"	50	40	山東雪梨
Pears, Shantung, . . . . .	"	100	80	天津雪梨
" Tientsin, . . . . .	"	200	15	波羅
Pine-apples, Puntl, . . . . .	each	50	40	沙梨
Plantains, common . . . . .	catty	80	2	乾梅
Prunes, Dried, . . . . .	bottle	300	250	香柚
Pumeloes, . . . . .	each	100	80	珠提
Raisins, Muscatel, . . . . .	bottle	600	500	乾提
" Pudding, . . . . .	lb.	200	180	白菓
Salisbury Seeds, Pak-kwo, catty	"	70	50	酸子
Tamarinds, . . . . .	"	60	50	核桃
Walnuts, . . . . .	"	110	100	馬蹄
Water Chestnuts, Canton . . . . .	"	70	40	菜蔬
<b>Vegetables.</b>				<b>蔬菜</b>
Asparagus, . . . . .	tin	450	400	龍鬚菜
Bamboo Shoots, . . . . .	catty	100	90	竹筍
Beans, sprout, . . . . .	catty	20	18	芽豆
" French from Macao . . . . .	"	200	—	紅菜頭
Beet Root, . . . . .	each	20	10	白菜
Brussels, . . . . .	"	12	10	上海椰菜
Cabbage, Shanghai, . . . . .	"	80	40	香港椰菜
" Hongkong, . . . . .	"	80	40	澳門椰菜
" Macao, . . . . .	"	80	40	芥蘭頭
" Turnip, . . . . .	"	40	20	紅菜
" White, Canton catty	"	25	20	白蘿蔔
Carrots, . . . . .	"	40	80	花菜
Cauliflower, . . . . .	each	100	50	本地芹菜
Celery, Chinese, . . . . .	catty	30	20	菜路
Celery, English, . . . . .	"	80	70	辣椒乾
Chilies, Dried, . . . . .	"	100	80	辣椒仔
" Mixed, . . . . .	"	100	80	紅辣椒
" Red, . . . . .	"	100	80	加厘材料
Curry Plant, English, . . . . .	catty	60	50	矮芋頭
Egg Stalk, . . . . .	"	80	60	蒜薹
Garlic, new, . . . . .	"	50	40	蒜子
Ginger, . . . . .	"	25	30	薑
" Young . . . . .	"	85	30	子薑
Green Peas, young . . . . .	"	80	70	荷蘭豆
" old . . . . .	"	100	80	荷蘭豆
Green Sprouts . . . . .	"	25	20	芥蘭菜
Greens, Winter Course, . . . . .	"	20	—	波菜
Lettuce, English, . . . . .	each	10	—	英國生菜
" Chinese . . . . .	catty	25	20	唐人生菜
Mint, . . . . .	bunch	10	—	薄荷
Mushroom, dried, . . . . .	catty	450	400	洋信頭
Onions, Bombay . . . . .	"	150	120	生葱
" Green . . . . .	"	25	20	生葱
Parsley, Chinese, . . . . .	"	60	50	莖菜
" English, . . . . .	bunch	10	5	莖菜
Potatoes, Macao, . . . . .	catty	40	35	上海薯仔
" Japanese, . . . . .	"	40	30	日本薯仔
" Sweet, . . . . .	"	12	10	番薯







## Intimations.

## CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE 1865.

CAPITAL \$600,000, in 6,000 SHARES OF \$100 EACH (FULLY PAID UP).

Consulting Committee.  
W. H. FORBES, Esq., W. RIMMER, Esq.,  
F. D. SASSON, Esq., LAI YUK SUN (of the  
E. R. BELLING, Esq., YOW-LOONG HONG).

Manager,  
H. DICKIE, Esq.

General Agents,  
Messrs JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Bankers,  
THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Solicitor,  
WM. H. BRERETON, Esq.

THIS Company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring from the present Proprietors the PROPERTY, INTEREST, and GOODWILL of the CHINA SUGAR REFINERY at East Point, which for the past five years has been managed under the direction of Messrs JARDINE, MATHESON and COMPANY, comprising the LAND and BUILDINGS occupied by the Refinery, and the PLANT, MACHINERY, and STOCK-IN-TRADE therein, and of carrying on the Business of a Sugar Refinery in all its branches, for which complete facilities are now afforded not only in the Ground and Premises, Plant and Machinery referred to, but in the valuable Business and Connection possessed by the present Owners.

The above-mentioned Premises comprise, firstly, that PIECE or PARCEL of GROUND, in Hongkong, registered in the Land Office as Marine Lot No. 231, with the MESSENGERS and BUILDINGS thereon, known as the Mint Premises; and those adjoining PIECES of GROUND, registered in the Land Office as Inland Lots Nos. 470, 471, 515, 524, 568, and 748, with the MESSENGERS and BUILDINGS thereon, adjoining the said Marine Lot, portions of the premises occupied by the China Sugar Refinery or belonging thereto, and the FLYING MACHINERY, ENGINES, BOILERS, and APPARATUS, FURNITURE, FURNINGS, and APPARATUS therein, now used by the China Sugar Refinery; secondly, that PIECE or PARCEL of GROUND in Hongkong aforesaid, with the MESSENGERS and BUILDINGS thereon, registered in the Land Office as Section A of Marine Lot No. 52, with the MESSENGERS and BUILDINGS thereon, being the remainder of the Premises comprising the said Refinery; and, thirdly, the STOCK-IN-TRADE, EXTRA PLANT, MACHINERY, GOODS, and CHARTERS, which are or will be in and about the said Premises and belonging to the Owners on the 28th day of February next. All the described Premises have been agreed to be sold to the Company by contract in writing dated the 22nd day of January, 1878, made between the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION of the first part, Messrs JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., of the second part, and the above-named Committee for and on behalf of the Company of the third part; whereby it was agreed that without any further sanction or confirmation of or by the Company or the Shareholders, the Premises firstly and secondly mentioned should be absolutely made over to the Company for the aggregate sum of \$425,000, made up as follows:—For the Premises firstly mentioned, the sum of \$300,000 to be paid to the first-mentioned party; for the Premises secondly mentioned, the sum of \$125,000 to be paid to the second-mentioned party. And as to the thirdly named Premises, the price payable for the same to the first-mentioned party, to be ascertained by a valuation to be made on the 28th day of February next, the value thereof being now roughly estimated at \$100,000.

Mr. DICKIE, under whose able management the Works have been placed in their present efficient state, has offered his services to the Company as Manager, which have been accepted. Although it has been in contemplation for some years past to transfer the Property and Business of the present Proprietors to a Public Company, it was not thought prudent to do so until the Company, as has been gained during the last three years, its future success should be assured.

The present Proprietors are prepared to hand over the Property and Business to the Company in a state of complete efficiency on the First of March next, and arrangements are being made to commence full work on that date.

The Business of the Company will be conducted by Messrs JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., as General Agents, assisted by a Consulting Committee.

It is intended that the whole of the Capital shall be called up as follows:—\$25 per Share on allotment, or with 10 days thereafter.

\$75 per Share on 1st day of March, 1878, or within 10 days thereafter.

All Calls unpaid after these dates shall bear interest at 12 per cent. per annum.

The surplus Capital after payment of the Purchase Money of the Property as above-mentioned, estimated at about \$75,000, will be available for working the Business of the Company.

One half of the Shares have already been subscribed; the remainder are offered to the public. Applications for Shares, which should be in the annexed Form, will be received by the General Agents, up to the 30th day of February, 1878.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1878.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES ABOVE REFERRED TO.

Hongkong, day of 1878.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

To Messrs JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Agents, hereby request that you will allot to me Shares in the above Company, and agree to accept such Shares or any less number you may allot to me, and agree to pay the first Call of Dollars Twenty-five per Share, within ten days after allotment, and also the subsequent Call of \$75, and to subscribe the Articles of Association whenever required to do so.

Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

Blank Forms of Application for Shares may be had at the Office of the General Agents.

## Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.  
MR. HORATIO GAY JAMES was admitted a Partner in our Firm on the 1st January, 1878.  
GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.  
Hongkong, January 5, 1878.

NOTICE.  
MR. H. F. MEYERINK has been admitted a Partner in our Firm from this date.  
MEYER & Co.  
Hongkong, January 1, 1878. ap2

NOTICE.  
MR. CHARLES DAVID BOTTOMLEY was admitted a PARTNER in our Firm on the 1st July, 1877.  
DOUGLAS LAFLAIRE & Co.  
Hongkong, September 22, 1877.

NOTICE.  
I HAVE This Day established myself at this Port as a MERCHANT and COMMISSION AGENT, under the Style or Firm of GEO. R. STEVENS & Co., who will henceforward conduct the Agency of the AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.  
G. R. STEVENS.  
Hongkong, December 29, 1877.

NOTICE.  
I HAVE This Day Established myself at this Port as a GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.  
J. Y. VERNON SHAW.  
Hongkong, November 1, 1877. my1

NOTICE.  
I HAVE This Day Established myself at this Port, under the Style or Firm, WEST POINT IRON WORKS, ENGINEERS AND BOILERMAKERS, BY WILLIAM DUNPHY & Co., Late Manager of the NOVELTY IRON WORKS, Hongkong.  
WM. DUNPHY.  
Hongkong, December 10, 1877. jel0

## Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—  
QUICKSTEP, American barque, Captain Barnaby.—Captain.  
TARTAR, German brig, Captain Kaemena.—Melchers & Co.  
MARIE, German barque, Captain Hunsdewadt.—Wieser & Co.  
PALESTINE, British barque, Captain H. Scowcroft.—Tai Lee.  
KILLARNEY, British steamer, Captain O'Neill.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

## To-day's Advertisements.

FOR MANILA VIA AMOY.  
The Spanish Steamer "EMUY."  
BLANCO, Master, daily expected from Manila, will have immediate despatch as above.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to REMEDIOS & Co.  
Hongkong, February 16, 1878.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction at their Office, No. 23, Queen's Road, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 20th Instant, A Quantity of ANTHRACITE EGG COAL, Ex "John Potts." In Lots to suit Purchasers. TERMS of SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars, weighed at 71.7. HUGHES & LEGG, Auctioneers.  
Hongkong, February 16, 1878. fe20

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

## FOREIGN ATTACHMENTS.

Summary Jurisdiction.  
Suit No. 168. Plaintiff LEONG ASOO, Defendant NG KWE.  
Suit No. 173. Plaintiff YIP TAI NGAM, Defendant NG KWE.  
Original Jurisdiction.  
Suit No. 5. Plaintiff HO AROW, Defendant NG KWE.

NOTICE is hereby given that writs of Foreign Attachments returnable on the 27th day of February inst., against the above-named Defendant within the Colony, have been issued in each of the above Suits pursuant to the Provisions of Section LXXXII. of "The Hongkong Code of Civil Procedure."  
Dated the 14th day of February, A.D. 1878.

SHARP, TOLLER & JOHNSON, Solicitors for the General Plaintiffs, SUPREME COURT HOUSE, Hongkong.

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

## FOREIGN ATTACHMENTS.

Original Jurisdiction.  
Suit No. 7. Plaintiff LO A-NAM, Defendant NG A-KW.  
Suit No. 8. Plaintiff LEONG AWOON, Defendant NG A-KW.

NOTICE is hereby given that writs of Foreign Attachments returnable on the 1st day of March 1878, against the above-named Defendant within the Colony, have been issued in each of the above Suits pursuant to the Provisions of Section LXXXII. of "The Hongkong Code of Civil Procedure."  
Dated the 15th day of February, A.D. 1878.

SHARP, TOLLER & JOHNSON, Solicitors for the General Plaintiffs, SUPREME COURT HOUSE, Hongkong.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS.

Feb. 15, Kwang Tung, British steamer, 674, G. T. Westoby, Aberdeen Dec. 21, via ports of call, and Singapore Feb. 7, Ballast.—DOUGLAS LAFLAIRE & Co.  
Feb. 16, Stentor, British steamer, 1304, Kirkpatrick, Shanghai Feb. 9, and Foochow 14, General.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.  
Feb. 16, Fuyuen, Chinese steamer, 920, A. Crow, Shanghai Feb. 13, General.—O. M. S. N. Co.  
Feb. 16, Maggie, H. M. gunboat, from Swatow Feb. 15.  
Feb. 16, Feiho, German barque, 251, Christaine, Quinhon Feb. 2, Salt.—ARNOLD, KAMBERG & Co.

## DEPARTURES.

Feb. 16, Standard, for Saigon.  
Feb. 16, Casandra, for Saigon.  
Feb. 16, May, for Singapore.  
Feb. 16, Emerald, for Manila.  
Feb. 16, Ningpo, for Shanghai.  
Feb. 16, Fuyuen, for Canton.

## CLEARED.

John Potts, for Takow.  
Taiwan, for Swatow.  
Cyphrenia, for Saigon.  
Annie Florence, for Manila.  
Beethoven, for Chefoo.

## PASSENGERS.

## ARRIVED.

Per Stentor, from Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs Hickman, Messrs Tennent, Daniels, Smith and Holt, and 30 Chinese.  
Per Fuyuen, from Shanghai, Mr Sampson, and 41 Chinese.  
Per Kwang Tung, from Singapore, 11 Chinese.

## DEPARTED.

Per Emeralds, for Manila, Dr. and Mrs. Stent, Rev. Guillermo Barrio, Mr Barashaw, and 9 Chinese.  
Per Ningpo, for Shanghai, 1 Cabin.

## SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer Stentor reports: Fine weather throughout the passage. The Chinese steamer Fuyuen reports: Strong N.E. winds and high sea throughout. The British steamer Kwang Tung reports: Left Aberdeen at 0.45 p.m. on the 21st of December, had strong S.W. winds to North Foreland, thence to Dartmouth strong Westerly winds, where we landed pilot and took our departure at 9 a.m. on the 24th. Had strong Westerly and N.W. gales and high sea to Cape Finisterre, thence to Gibraltar moderate winds and fine weather, which was passed at 7 a.m. on the 29th. Passed Malta at 10 a.m. on the 2nd Jan. Arrived at Port Said at 1 p.m. on the 6th. Left Suez on 10th and had strong head winds down the Red Sea. Thence to Penang fresh Easterly winds and fine weather. Arrived there on the 22nd. Left for Hongkong on the 7th and had fresh monsoon from Cape Verilla, and thence to port strong Northerly and N.E. winds with confused sea, and dull cloudy weather with light drizzling rain. Passed S. S. Pernambuco from Saigon to Hongkong.

## POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

## MAILS will close:—

For SAIGON.—  
Per Cyphrenia, at 9 a.m., on Sunday, the 17th inst.  
For MANILA.—  
Per barque Annie Florence, at 9 a.m. Tomorrow, the 17th inst.  
For SHANGHAI.—  
Per Glenroy, at 11.30 a.m., on Monday, the 18th inst.  
Per Sin Nanning, at 5 p.m., on Monday, the 18th inst.  
For SAIGON.—  
Per Quarta, at 3.30 p.m., on Monday, the 18th inst.  
For PORT DARWIN, COOKTOWN, SYDNEY, and MELBOURNE.—  
Per Bertha, at 11.30 a.m., on Saturday, the 23rd inst. Private ship rates. Correspondence for New Zealand, Tasmania, and Adelaide can be sent.

## MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet Alaska will be despatched on MONDAY, the 18th instant, with Mails for Japan, San Francisco, and the United States, which will be closed as follows:—  
2 P.M. Registry of Letters closes.  
2.30 p.m. Post-Office closes, but Letters (except for Non-Union Countries) may be posted on Board the Packet with Late Fee of 18 cents extra Postage until the time of departure.

## MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.

The French Contract Packet Yangtze will be despatched from Hongkong on THURSDAY, the 21st instant, with Mails to and through the United Kingdom and Europe, via Manilla, to Saigon, Singapore, Batavia, Cebu, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji, Aden, Seychelles, Réunion, Mauritius, Suez, and Alexandria. This is the best opportunity for forwarding Correspondence to E. Africa, the Cape, St. Helena, and Ascension.

## MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.

The English Contract Packet INDUS will be despatched with the Mails for Europe, &c., on THURSDAY, the 28th instant.

## MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.  
Daylight.—Taiwan leaves for Coast Ports.

## MEMOS. FOR MONDAY.

Shipping.  
Noon.—Glenroy leaves for Shanghai.

8 p.m.—American Mail leaves for Yokohama and San Francisco.

## Auction.

2 p.m.—Sale of Household Furniture, &c., at Lieut.-Col. Sherwin's residence, "Orangefield."

## Meetings.

2 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, at Club Chambers.

3 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of The Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited, at No. 7, Queen's Road.

9 p.m.—Meeting of Victoria Lodge.

## THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Established A.D. 1841.

## 香港大藥房

A. S. WATSON & Co.,

FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,

IMPORTERS

OF

DRUGGISTS' Sundries, NURSERY REQUISITES, TOILET REQUISITES, ENGLISH, AMERICAN, AND FRENCH PATENT MEDICINES.

MANUFACTURERS

OF

Soda Water, Lemonade, Tonic Water, Gingerale, Potass Water, Sarsaparilla, Water, and other Aromatic Waters.

The Manufactory is under direct and continuous European Supervision.

Hongkong, June 1, 1876.

The publication of this issue commenced at 7.30 p.m.

## THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 1878.

"RELATIONS between Russia and Austria are critical." This announcement at the present moment is one of vast importance. It settles once for all the question of Austria's neutrality or hostility to England; almost dissipates belief in the treaty of the three emperors, and holds out a prospect of the Russians ultimately finding their invasion of Turkey a most unfortunate and calamitous undertaking. The Austrian-Hungarian army is one which the patriots of that empire would probably be very unwilling to admit was in any way inferior to that of Russia, and should His Most Catholic Majesty, Franz Joseph I., take it into his head to march two or three hundred thousand men in Roumania we are disposed to believe the Russian troops on the other side of the Danube would find their predicament a serious one, especially if an Anglo-Turkish army should also commence operations at the same moment in the neighbourhood of Constantinople. According to the official returns Austria possesses an army numbering 286,218 men on the peace footing, and 1,051,421 men on the war footing. Russia possesses, or rather her official returns indicated she possessed before the commencement of the present war, a standing army of 787,998 men, which in time of war was capable of being raised to 1,671,674 men. Probably, however, neither country would be able to place nearly as many men as this under arms for fighting purposes, and especially in the case of Russia have these numbers to be regarded as "nominal." When we come to examine the returns of artillery and cavalry—forces which form an indispensable part of any army—we do not find such a large disparity between the two countries. The artillery of Russia in 1876 numbered 1,422 guns on a peace footing, while that of Austria at the commencement of 1876 numbered 1,344 guns, exclusive of two battalions of mountain artillery. The cavalry of Austria on the peace footing numbered 35,793, and on a war footing 68,794 men. The Russian cavalry numbered 38,306 on the peace footing, and 49,183 on the war footing, but Russia has a host of Cossacks (130,000) who, however, do not appear to be greatly distinguishing themselves in the present war.

There is no doubt that the issue of a struggle between Russia and Austria under ordinary circumstances would be a doubtful one, but with a large Russian force isolated on the other side of the Danube, and Turkish forces and fortresses on all sides, the Czar's troops would assuredly run the risk of a tremendous disaster. If they could not be captured, or driven out of Bulgaria and Roumelia, their starvation tactics, so successful at Plevna, might apparently be readily turned against themselves. An army cannot exist in a state of efficiency without other supplies than those of food. The telegrams almost indicate that the Russians seem to appreciate the difficulties of their position. "A despatch has," we are told, "been received from Prince Gortschakoff in which he declares that the Russian occupation of Constantinople is entirely a pacific measure." This is slightly less bellicose than the announcement of the Prince a day or two previously that "as the British Ironclad Squadron goes to Constantinople we shall send Russian troops there also." The Prince is hardly consistent in his despatches, for in one he intimates that Russian troops are to be sent to the Turkish capital because the British are going there, while in the next, the occupation of the place is declared to be for pacific purposes. In a general way, we should imagine that the despatch of Russian troops into Constantinople is just the proceeding to bring about a rupture with England, but to speak of the act as a pacific measure is an eminently Russian method of putting it. We do not believe that Germany would go beyond diplomatic utterances on behalf of Russia, even should Austria succeed in catching the Czar's troops in a trap. In the first place a war between Germany and Austria, the latter, perhaps, united with England, would almost inevitably result in another Franco-German war, and considering the immense forces, splendidly armed and drilled, France would now be able to place in the field, Germany's friendship for Russia is hardly likely to induce her to run the risk of hostilities with at least two powerful countries, each strong enough to find work for the whole of her forces. While we do not believe in English interests being so strongly bound up with the fate of Constantinople as some people would

have us believe, the war is unquestionably one of Russia's own seeking, and England will assuredly have right on her side in checking the aggressiveness of the northern Colossus. The Powers, united, were prepared to demand all that fairly could be demanded from the Turk in the shape of improvements in the government and the more considerate treatment of the Christian subjects of the Porte, although the campaign in Bulgaria has pretty well shown that these unfortunate were not so very badly treated after all; Russia, however, preferred to rush in with the sword and a large and varied selection of pious ejaculations. In face of these facts we shall not be touched with very profound sorrow if she ultimately finds the campaign was a mistake, and not quite such a great success as she anticipated.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "CHINA MAIL."] (By Southern Route.)

## THE WAR.

London, 14th Feb. 1878.

In the House of Commons, in reply to a question, Sir Stafford Northcote (Chancellor of the Exchequer) said that although the Porte refuses to give permission to enter the Dardanelles, the passage was unopposed and that the Squadron was now at Marmora. A despatch has been received from Prince Gortschakoff in which he declares that the Russian occupation of Constantinople is entirely a pacific measure. Lord Derby has replied to this despatch, protesting against any occupation. Relations between Russia and Austria are critical.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Legislative Council will meet on Tuesday, the 19th instant, at 2.30 p.m.

We learn that Dr. Hanco is to relieve Sir Brooke Robertson at once, and that Mr. Stronach goes to Whampoa.

Mr. W. M. Morgan, who was fined at the last inquest for non-attendance, has had his fine remitted, having sent in a satisfactory explanation of his non-attendance.

The Gazette also publishes an official acknowledgement of Rupees 548.10.4 towards the Indian Relief Fund, forwarded to Madras by Bishop Raimond, from the officers and men of the Portuguese gunboat Tejo.

The Government Gazette contains letters to H. E. the Governor, concerning the China Famine Relief Fund, from Rev. Messrs. Mathhead and Palmer (of Shanghai), and from Father Burghignoni (of Hongkong), bearing on the pressing necessity of aid being given to the poor starving populations of Shen-si, Shan-si and Honan provinces. The horrors of the situation in these regions must be beyond all description, and the efforts of all good men and true ought to be directed towards their alleviation.

We have much pleasure in informing the Ladies of Hongkong that His Excellency the Governor, in accordance with their wishes, has consented to aid the Bazaar for the relief of the starving Chinese in the North, by directing the erection of a building for the purpose in the Public Gardens. This will be opened on Friday, the 22nd instant; and those who have been preparing contributions, fancy work or other articles, and who have not yet forwarded them, are requested to do so as early as possible to Mrs. Edmund Sharp, Robinson Road. We trust the double attraction in the Gardens on Friday will draw a large attendance, and would suggest to the Committee of the Horticultural Society the suitability of admitting all ladies and gentlemen connected with the public services at say half price, and that this arrangement should include all nationalities.

Messrs. Douglas Laflaire & Co.'s new steamer the Kwangtung, Captain Westoby, arrived here today from Aberdeen. She made the run from Aberdeen to this port, touching at the usual intermediate ports, in 56 days. The Kwangtung has been built to the order of Messrs. Douglas Laflaire & Co., by Messrs. Hall, Russell & Co., of Aberdeen, to replace the vessel of the same name which was lost on Oakes Island in April 1876. She is a much larger and superior vessel to her namesake, however, and in model somewhat resembles the Douglas. As might be expected her equipment is all of the most modern type. The saloon is rather a novelty, being divided into two, one being on the upper deck and one on the lower deck, and a staircase leading from the one to the other. The state-rooms, sufficient to accommodate 16 first class passengers, are on the upper deck, communicating with the upper saloon. She has the usual houses on deck, which is fine, fore and aft. Despite the somewhat long passage she has made we are given to understand that she is a vessel that can average a high rate of speed. The highest speed attained during the passage, in the Blitar Lakes, was 13 knots, and in ordinary weather she can maintain an average speed of from 10 to 12 knots. Most of her officers are well known on this coast, having been for several years in the employ of Messrs. Douglas Laflaire & Co. Their names are Capt. Westoby, Chief and Second Officer Messrs. Goods and Miles, and Chief

Engineer Mr. Macintosh. The following are the dimensions of the vessel:—Length over all, 226 ft.; between perpendiculars, 220 ft.; extreme breadth, 31 feet 6 inches; depth of hold, 31 feet; gross carrying capacity, about 500 tons; the registered tonnage being set down at 674 tons. Her engines are a pair of compound surface condensing of 180 H. P. nominal. We wish the Kwangtung a more successful career than her predecessor of the same name.

Last night a number of gentlemen assembled at the house of Mr. G. M. A. da Silva, Old Bailey-street, to witness some experiments with a telephone constructed by Mr. da Silva himself. As demonstrating the soundness of the principle of the invention the experiments were perfectly successful. Singing in an upper room of the house was distinctly heard through the instrument, and although conversations were hardly practicable, at least when the telephone was used by those entirely unaccustomed to its sound, yet such words as "enough," and "repeat" were readily heard and understood. Later in the evening the telephone, or rather one of the two telephones necessary to carry on communication, was taken to a house in Elgin Street, some fifty or sixty yards distant, and there also piano playing and talking in Mr. da Silva's house could be distinguished although perhaps not quite so readily. It would of course have been unreasonable to expect Mr. da Silva, in the first attempt, to construct a delicate instrument of this kind, which should give as successful results as the telephones of Professor Bell. Mr. da Silva's first efforts to make a telephone were, we believe, induced by the description and wood-cut of the instrument which appeared in this journal, but subsequently he obtained a more detailed guide in his work from the excellent diagrams and notes respecting the instrument appearing in the Illustrated London News. An idea of the difficulties encountered by Mr. da Silva in making the two telephones may be gathered from the fact that being unable to obtain off-hand plates of iron thin enough for the diaphragm, he had to get some rubbed down to the required thickness by hand, several plates being spoiled in the process; and when a couple of these plates were ultimately successfully prepared, they were abandoned in favour of some forty plates, which Mr. da Silva happened one day to come across. Mr. da Silva seems to be remarkably fond of and expert in scientific experiments, and doubtless can, if he desires, bring his telephone to far greater perfection than it is at the present moment.

The annual meeting of seatholders of Union Church was held yesterday evening (Feb. 15th), at the Church. Mr. D. R. Crawford (the Honorary Secretary) read the Report, which sets forth that the financial position of the Church was if anything worse than last year. The accounts show a balance due to the Hon. Treasurer of over \$800, but against that there was a sum of \$800 to be collected for pew-rents, &c., leaving a balance of \$100 to carry them through to the end of March. The Report also stated that Mr. Lamont had promised to defer his departure a little until some definite news be received from England with regard to his success. The following resolutions were then put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—  
1. That the Report of the Managing Committee and the Treasurer's Accounts be accepted and printed.  
2. That Mr. Lamont be requested to postpone his departure for England for a short time, in the hope of some definite news of his successor being received.  
3. That the Elders of the Church, together with Messrs A. Falconer, J. G. Smith, and D. Robb, be appointed Committee for the year—Mr. Falconer as Secretary and Mr. Smith as Treasurer.  
4. That a cordial vote of thanks be accorded Messrs D. R. Crawford and J. Fairbairn, the retiring Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, for the work they have done for the Church.  
Mr. Crawford said he was sorry they could not leave them in a better financial position. Mr. Falconer proposed that all seatholders be appealed to on behalf of the Church, not only for subscriptions, but that they might become seatholders. In reply to the second resolution, Mr. Lamont said he should have much pleasure in deferring his departure for a short time. The meeting then separated.

The following paragraph is from the Whitehall Review. We cannot help thinking that gossiping journals of this class occasionally manufacture rumours for the sake of contradicting them:—  
A rumour has been current that it is the intention of the Colonial Office to recall Mr. Pope Hennessy from Hongkong. We have made inquiry, and from what we learn we are inclined to think that the wish is in this instance father to the thought. Mr. Hennessy will shortly command the services of an official who rendered him advice in Barbadoes, and it is probable that on Major Palmer's arrival things may run more smoothly with Mr. Hennessy, whose fault it is that he has a happy knack of doing the wrong thing at the wrong time. It may be questioned whether his selection for the Hongkong Governorship was the best which could have been made.

## THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH IN THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

The following correspondence relative to the teaching of English in the Central and other Government schools is published in the Government Gazette of to-day. The words used by Mr. Francis at the distribution of prizes at St. Joseph's College were: "I was astonished to find at the recent examination of the Central School that only forty or fifty boys had been learning English or were able to speak any English at all. I had always been under the impression that the one thing for which that school existed was to teach English; I was under an impression that every Chinese boy who went there was taught English; and I was very much astonished to find such was not the case." The effect of these remarks was given in our report of Mr. Francis's speech, but owing to the haste with which our account of the proceedings had to be prepared,



our report of some five columns being published a few hours afterwards—Mr Francis's remarks were condensed somewhat. We reproduced the actual words used by Mr Francis in our leading articles subsequently. The remarks that passed between Mr Stewart and His Excellency at the Central School were made *sub voce* and were of course not reported. His Excellency's words, it will be seen, were on all occasions confined to facts, although, as Mr Stewart points out, they might have led to a misunderstanding, especially when viewed in conjunction with the remarks of Mr Francis.

TEACHING OF ENGLISH IN THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

The following Letters and Minutes are published for general information.  
By Command.

J. GARDNER AUSTIN,  
Colonial Secretary.

HONGKONG, 28th January, 1878.  
SIR,—Referring to your Letter No. 132 of the 2nd March last, informing me of the Secretary of State's approval of the proposal for introducing a system of payment by results in the Government Schools of the Colony, I have the honour to report as follows:

The Schools ranked as *very good* are the—  
1. Tang-lung Chan (Punti) School.  
2. Wantai School.  
3. Stanley School.  
4. Girls' School.  
5. Tang-lung Chan (Hakka) School.  
The schools ranked as *good* are the—  
1. Sai Ying-p'ui (Punti) School.  
2. Ha Wai School.  
3. Sheng-wai Wan School.  
4. Ap-ki Chan School.  
5. Shok-yong Tsi School.  
6. T'ai-tai-mui School.

According to this classification,  
6 Masters receive \$25 each, \$150.00  
and 7 Masters receive \$15 each, 105.00  
Total, \$255.00

This payment comes under the denomination of Grants-in-Aid. I have already, in my Letter No. 3 of 7th instant, (C. S. O. No. 38), reported that the Grants-in-Aid this year are in excess of the sum voted for the purpose. I trust, however, that His Excellency the Governor, on considering the circumstances of the present year, will not object to making provision for this further sum; and I shall be glad if the Warrant for payment is issued in time to enable me to pay the Masters on the 1st proximo, before they go home for their New Year holidays.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient Servant,  
FREDERICK STEWART,  
Inspector of Schools.

The Hon. J. GARDNER AUSTIN, C.M.G.,  
Colonial Secretary,  
HONGKONG.

Minutes by His Excellency the Governor.  
I have already sanctioned the extra payments in accordance with Mr Stewart's recommendation, subject to the approval of the Legislative Council.

On visiting some of these Village Schools, I found the Schoolmasters could not speak a word of English, and as far as I could ascertain, none of the pupils had any knowledge of English.

Possibly, in some of the Government Schools I have not yet been able to visit, there may be instruction in English; I should therefore be glad if Mr Stewart would make a list of the Schoolmasters of the Village Schools, marking in each case, those who can teach English, and those who cannot.

Also, the total number of pupils in each Village School, and the number in each that can speak English.

J. POPE HENNESSY.  
29th January, 1878.

Minute by the Inspector of Schools.  
Before the establishment of the Central School, English was taught in a few of the Schools by visiting Masters, who attended for that purpose a few hours a week. This, the Board of Education found to be highly unsatisfactory. Accordingly, when the Central School was established, the teaching of English was abolished in all the other Schools.

The only exception now is the Aberdeen School, which is, and has been, in such a backward state that I almost despair of the success of the experiment, and often think we should revert, in this School, to the teaching of Chinese pure and simple.

With this exception, therefore, what are conveniently called the Village Schools are simply Schools where the children receive a Chinese education in their own language.

The School Book Committee's Series and Geography have been added to their course of instruction; but these subjects, excepted, they are such Schools as might be found anywhere in any part of the Chinese Empire.

Except that the correspondence exactly with the Grant-in-Aid Schools in Class I, namely: the Baxter, the London Mission, and the St. Stephen Schools. Neither Masters nor Scholars know anything of English.

FREDERICK STEWART.  
29th January, 1878.

HONGKONG, 10th February, 1878.  
MR DEAN MR STEWART.—Looking to the views entertained by the Governor, and many others as to the expediency of giving greater facility to the boys at the Central School for the study of the English language, it seems to me very desirable that we should have your views as early as possible as to the arrangements which should be made.

Could you not therefore postpone your departure for a fortnight? If prior to sending in a report you would like to discuss the matter with the Governor, myself, and a few others, I am sure His Excellency will afford you every facility.

Yours, &c.,  
J. GARDNER AUSTIN.  
Inspector of Schools to The Honourable J. Gardner Austin, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

HONGKONG, 11th February, 1878.  
SIR.—In answer to your note enquiring if I could not postpone my departure for a

No. of Day Scholars in 1877, 68  
No. of Evening Scholars in 1877, 21  
Total, 89

All these learn English; none of them speak it. The Master, Wong Keng, speaks English fairly.

fortnight, in order to give the Government my views on the expediency of affording greater facility to the boys at the Central School for the study of the English language, I have the honour to inform you that it would be exceedingly inconvenient for me to postpone it, for several reasons:—this one among others, that I had to telegraph to Shanghai to secure a passage for the 21st instant, and that I have no chance of being able to get one by the following steamer. I should, of course, at once sacrifice my own private interests for the sake of the public service, did I think it necessary; but I expect to be able to send you to-morrow, or the day after, a communication which, I believe, will set at rest this question of English at the Central School.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir, Your most obedient Servant,  
FREDERICK STEWART,  
Inspector of Schools.

Minutes by His Excellency the Governor.  
Let this await the further communication Mr Stewart tells us he is preparing. I should be very sorry to stop him, for no Officer has earned his leave of absence better, but I fear he is somewhat over-zealous in thinking that the communication he completes will set this question at rest; and it is to be regretted that he does not think it necessary for the service to get on the suggestions conveyed in Mr Austin's letter, and thus be able to discuss with the Colonial Secretary, myself and others, (such as the Members of Legislative Council who represent commercial interests), the problem of again teaching English in all the Government Schools, and of making the nominal programme of four hours a day of English for every boy at the Central School a reality, so that all the pupils in that school should be able to speak English—perfectly or imperfectly—instead of only 60 out of 89.

J. POPE HENNESSY.  
11th February, 1878.

Inspector of Schools to The Honourable J. Gardner Austin, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

HONGKONG, 12th February, 1878.  
SIR.—I have the honour to bring to your notice that there is a serious misapprehension abroad as to the working of the Central School.

2. This misapprehension has arisen from a question put to me by His Excellency the Governor, on the 25th ultimo, at the Distribution of the Prizes at the Central School.

3. I was then asked, "How many of the boys now in the school speak English?" I answered, "From fifty to sixty; and that imperfectly."

4. His Excellency, in his speech as published in the Government Gazette of the 26th of January, said, "In this English Colony we must not be satisfied with 60 out of 89 being able to speak English in our principal Government School, and that imperfectly."

5. On the following day, these words appeared in the "Cathoic Register," "He" (His Excellency) remarked on the small proportion, only 60 or 60 out of that number (89), who knew anything of English and of their very imperfect knowledge of the language."

6. At an interview to which the Governor invited me in the forenoon of the 5th instant, on reference being again made to the speech of English in the school, I said to His Excellency's special attention, to the distinction between speaking a language and learning, that is studying it; as the impression was then gaining upon me that there was a misapprehension on the subject.

7. In the afternoon of the same day, on the occasion of the Distribution of Prizes by His Excellency the Governor at St. Joseph's College, Mr Francis is reported in the "China Mail" of that date to have said, "He was astonished to find at the recent examination of the Central School that only forty or fifty of the Chinese youths receiving instruction there were being taught English, or able to speak the language to any extent. He was under the impression previously that every Chinese boy who went there was taught English, and he was much surprised to find that that was not the case."

8. In the report of the same proceedings contained in the "Daily Press" of the 11th instant, Mr Francis is similarly reported to have said, "I was astonished to find at the recent examination of the Central School only forty or fifty of the boys were able to speak English. I had always been under the impression that the one thing that school existed for was to teach English, that every boy was taught English, and I was very much astonished to find that that was not the case."

9. On the same occasion, His Excellency is reported in the "China Mail" to have stated, "You have heard it said that only about forty or fifty—I think the actual number given to me by Mr Stewart, was fifty or sixty—of the Chinese boys being educated in the Central School last year spoke English and that imperfectly."

10. Further on, His Excellency is reported to have said, "It was only this very morning in an interview I had with Mr Stewart, who is at the head of our Government educational system, I told him, what I was bound to repeat to him, namely, the views of leading merchants, unofficial members of my Council, and others in this Colony, which are that they desire the Government Schools in Hongkong to teach more English, and that no boy should, in time to come, leave the Government Schools, without being able to speak English."

11. The report of His Excellency's words in the "Daily Press" is in precisely the same terms, and need not therefore be repeated.

12. Now I very respectfully beg to point out that in all this there is a fallacy lurking, and I have italicized the words on which I think that fallacy lies.

13. The belief now abroad in the Colony is that no attempt is made at the Central School to teach more than fifty or sixty of the boys English; and that the study of that language is subordinated to the study of Chinese, which both the English and the Chinese masters devote their time and their energies to teach. Indeed, it is difficult to see how people could believe otherwise, considering that Mr Francis, as appears above, stated that he was astonished to find that only forty or fifty of the boys at the Central School were being taught English, and that His Excellency was astonished to find that only forty or fifty of the boys were able to speak English.

14. The simple fact however is quite otherwise. Every boy in the Central School is taught English during four hours every day, a period which I think it impossible to extend with any good result. In addition to this teaching of English, but in subordination to it, the boys are also taught their

own language by non-English-speaking masters; for I hold that no boy can master a foreign language without a competent knowledge of his own, unless he resides in the country in which the foreign language is spoken.

15. When I said to His Excellency that only 60 or 60 of the boys spoke English, I referred to those who had been some years in the school, and who were about to leave it on obtaining employment. When I used the word "imperfectly," I did so in contradistinction to the facility with which one speaks a foreign language from actual experience in life, as apart from the slow and imperfect speaking of it which one acquires by learning it only from the lips of a master; and I did not for a moment intend to suggest that none of the others knew anything of English.

16. In the "China Mail" account of the proceedings already referred to, His Excellency is reported to have said, "I asked His Lordship when I came in this morning what was the number of Portuguese in the school, and what number left the school, able to speak English. He answered, first, that there cannot be far short of 200 Portuguese trained in the school, & I that all these, practically speaking, leave the school able to speak English more or less."

17. If His Excellency will take the same reply from me now, I can give it, without hesitation or reservation, as regards the boys at the Central School.

18. That more can be done at the Central School as it is, than is being done, to teach English, I believe to be impossible: that more could be done at the school as I should like to see it, than is done now, it would be impossible to deny; but, to reach that stage, the new school must be built, more accommodation provided, smaller classes formed, a stronger staff of teachers obtained, and a playground supplied as the most practical of all forms of teaching the boys to speak English.

19. I have repeatedly referred to all these matters in my Annual Reports, but it is now necessary to repeat and emphasize them; as, much as I must reiterate to the school from the currency given to the impression that His Excellency will permit the publication of this letter in next Saturday's Gazette, in order that this serious public misapprehension may be authoritatively removed on the earliest possible occasion.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
FREDERICK STEWART,  
Inspector of Schools.

The Governor to the Colonial Secretary.  
As the Colonial Secretary was with me when I put the questions to Mr Stewart about the amount of English spoken in the double class-room where there were taught by three Chinese teachers, and about the amount of English spoken by the six hundred and ten pupils in the whole school for 1877, I should be glad if he would record his recollection of Mr Stewart's answer.

J. POPE HENNESSY.  
12th February, 1878.

Minute by the Colonial Secretary.  
The information given to Your Excellency by Mr Stewart conveyed an impression to my mind that only 60 or 60 of the boys knew anything of English. Indeed, when these figures were given to Your Excellency's speech I understood Mr Stewart to say, when turning round to me, that he feared they were in excess.

I must confess that in consequence I left the school with an unfavourable impression as to the extent to which instruction was being given in English, as I hold that political and commercial interests render the study of English of primary importance in all Government schools.

I quite agree, however, with Mr Stewart that we should obtain better results with more accommodation, smaller classes, and a stronger staff of teachers.

J. GARDNER AUSTIN,  
Colonial Secretary.  
13th February, 1878.

SUPREME COURT.  
IN ADMIRALTY.  
(Before Mr. Justice SHOWNEN.)  
16th Feb., 1878.

IN RE THE CARGO EX S. S. "JAPAN."  
This was a claim for salvage on certain treasure recovered from the wreck of the P. M. S. S. Japan.

The Queen's Advocate, the Hon. G. Phillips, instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson, proctor, appeared for the respondents, Messrs. Bates & Co., and others.

Mr. Haylar, Q. C., instructed by Mr. Beeton, appeared for the impugners, the China Traders' Insurance Company, and other local Insurance Companies interested in the insurance of the steamer.

Mr. W. W. Bates, was called.—I am a merchant and commission agent carrying on business in Hongkong and am one of the respondents in this suit. I heard of the wreck of the Japan about the 18th or 19th of December 1874. I conceived the idea of setting out an expedition to go to the wreck and recover the treasure.

I received the vessel, the Scotland, and I made a proposal to the charter money it was to be \$600 a month, besides 1/10th of the profits that might be obtained by the expedition. I then associated myself with several parties for the purpose of supplying the necessary funds. An agreement was signed between all parties on the 14th January 1875. (Put in.) After the association was formed, a meeting was held in my office on the 15th January, at which Messrs. Broadbent, Anthony & Co. were elected managers. A charter-party was signed between Capt. Holcomb and the parties, dated 10th January, (also put in.) This Scotland was then specially fitted for the expedition, and was provided with diving apparatus, and as fourth, Lofavour was employed to put in Capt. Holcomb in the search. Two divers were also employed on an agreement.

Barnett Hopkinson and Wm. Priestow. The vessel sailed on the 16th January. During the whole time the expedition was fitted out, there was nothing concealed from anybody; it was openly spoken of in public places. As I was getting underweight a letter was received from Augustus Heard & Co., addressed to Broadbent, Anthony & Co. and one to Capt. Holcomb. I was on board at the time when the letters were received. Previous to this, I received no notice whatever. No notice was taken of these letters, as the vessel was getting

underweight. The Scotland was then towed up the coast by the tug Pilot Fish. \$1000 was paid to Capt. Holcomb and Capt. Lofavour to employ fishermen to assist in finding the wreck. I left for the scene of the wreck on the 31st January via Swatow in the str. Douglas. I learnt there that some Hainan fishermen had their nets torn on a sunken wreck. I endeavoured to find some of these fishermen, and if possible, to employ one of them as interpreter, and three other fishermen who were acquainted with the fishermen in the villages between Swatow and Tanguo Road. I went overland with them to Tanguo Road. We made enquiries, and the statement I had received was confirmed, that some Hainan men had their nets torn. The Scotland then went to Hainan Bay on the 5th February, arriving there on the 6th. Ashoo and the three fishermen were sent ashore to find some of these fishermen. They found five fishermen who said they had their nets torn, and brought them on board the Scotland. We then arranged with them to go out to search the wreck, and the Scotland left with them, on the 6th February, the same day I returned to Hongkong via Swatow. I did not go out again. About the 22nd February I heard that the Scotland had found the wreck on the 19th. I notified the discovery to the U. S. Consuls at Hongkong and Swatow. I wrote a letter to Col. Loring here on the 25th, and he replied on the 2nd March. I also received an answer from the U. S. Consul at Swatow. I saw a letter written by Capt. Holcomb on the 12th March to Messrs. Broadbent, Anthony & Co., reporting the discovery of the position of the wreck on the 10th March (read). A contract was made between Broadbent, Anthony & Co. and F. Smith, Capt. Lofavour, and the two water boats and the steam launch.

In consequence of Captain Holcomb's letter of the 13th I negotiated with the Great Northern Telegraph Company for the services of their divers. I produced the agreement. The persons named in that agreement went to the Scotland, and I afterwards received notice of some interference with them, and that Capt. Holcomb had given up the wreck and sold the buoy. A meeting of the shareholders was then called, and it was decided to take no further steps to regain possession of the wreck, and the other vessel was recalled, and the accounts were closed and audited. The expenditure was \$15,499.80, and neither myself nor any other person to my knowledge derived any knowledge of the whereabouts of the wreck from the impugners. I saw Captain Warsaw shortly after his arrival in Hongkong, and he was not then engaged. He gave me no definite information, but told me the vessel was wrecked off Breaker Point, and I proposed that he should take charge of the expedition. I was thinking of sending out Mr. Scott, the Chief Officer, marked the spot on the chart, showing the position of the vessel at 9 o'clock on the night of the fire, her approximate position when the fire was discovered and the engines stopped, with the estimated distance she drifted before she sank. (Chart produced.) This chart was used by Capt. Holcomb or Capt. Smith. The Chief Officer also made a plan of the ship for the use of the divers.

The Chief Officer was engaged as an extra diver, and an agreement was made with him. By Mr. Haylar.—It was generally understood that the cargo should be taken to Swatow or Hongkong, but it was not definitely decided which. Swatow was the nearest place, and it was suggested to take it to the U. S. Consular Court. Captain Holcomb, I think, does not now at the Pacific Islands. I do not know that he owes Broadbent, Anthony & Co. \$4000 or \$5000 for fitting out his ship, nor that he left this port to avoid the service of a writ. The capital of the expedition was \$5,000 on the first call, but we had not decided then how much we were prepared to spend, probably not so much as the other people who were present. I had some conversation with Mr. Emory after the loss of the steamer. He was agent of the P. M. S. S. Co. I never heard from him that Capt. Warsaw had been making enquiries from some fishermen, but I heard Captain Warsaw had gone to Swatow in the early part of January, for the purpose it was reported of looking for the Japan on behalf of some of the Insurance Companies.

Mr. Anthony, about a week before the expedition started, communicated with Mr. Ray, not to offer his services but to arrange a percentage for salvaging. I did not consider that the same as offering our services. They declined to make any arrangement with Mr. Anthony. Our object was to salvage the coast in face of this was to save the treasure, and we had no interest in it beyond what any salvagers would have.

We did not leave Swatow because we wanted to find the wreck, and we wanted to get there before anybody else. We did not regard the underwriters in a different light from anybody else, and we wanted to get first possession of the wreck. We were advised that it was not necessary to communicate with the underwriters. I did not know that Captain Warsaw had posted notices in all the villages at Tanguo. He refused to give me any information, and I did not expect he could give me any definite information. I went to see him in an arrangement for salvaging some goods, and I did not know I was asking for information. You had paid him \$1000. I was told the first diver we had could only go down in eleven fathoms and the wreck was in 22 or 23 fathoms. I was not aware that at that depth of water I believe the greatest depth in which a man can work is twenty-five fathoms. Our object was not merely to find the wreck, but to find the treasure.

Re-examined by the Queen's Advocate.—Whether the treasure should be taken to Swatow or Hongkong was left an open question to be decided after success.

By the Court.—In the agreement the Japan was stated to be off Oupiti Point; that was a mistake on the part of the collector. The solution was suggested by Mr. Anthony. It was generally reported that the wreck was off Breaker Point, and I knew that to be the case all the time.

George B. Lofavour, examined, states—I was originally interested in the expedition to salvage the treasure from the Japan with Capt. Holcomb. The top produced in Captain Holcomb's. I saw him writing it every day. I left in the Scotland on Jan. 16th, with two professional divers and two helpers and apprentices. We arrived at Oupiti Point on the 19th, and left again the same day, after having been on shore there and got some information. We got to Tanguo on the 29th. The letters came

into Tanguo Roads after we arrived, on Jan. 23rd. I do not remember the letters coming there. Referring to my log I see coming there. Referring to my log I see coming there. Referring to my log I see coming there.

The Japan arrived on the 23rd. I saw Capt. Roberts on board the Scotland on the 22nd and 23rd. We employed fishing boats to go out and drag, sometimes as many as 20 or 30 boats were thus employed. We dragged off Breaker Point. We began dragging on the 25th January and continued doing so off and on until the 19th February.

On that day the nets got hold of something, but we dragged from our anchors that night and lost the position of what we had found. Some fishermen were brought on board the Scotland, who said they knew something about the position of the wreck. I left the Scotland in Hope Bay on the 28th February. I went back again to her on the 21st March. I went in a steam launch with Captain Smith; I saw a large iron buoy there then. On the 2nd April Hopkinson, the diver, went down and described the finding of something which he thought was a crank. Captain Roberts did not, to my hearing, claim that he had discovered the wreck before us. Captains Johnson and Richards came on board the Scotland sometimes, but they never said anything about having discovered the wreck before us. I have no interest in the expedition now.

By Mr. Haylar.—While we were anchoring over this piece of wreck, the currents were running in all directions. I sold my interest in the expedition, and got back about what I had paid out. On the 12th February I was not so sick of the concern as Captain Holcomb was, but I was a good deal annoyed. I sold out in April; I did not know then for certain that what we found was the wreck. Hopkinson believed it to be the side-wheel of a steamer. The N. E. Monsoon was a good time to drag, on account of the wind. It was a very rough time. We went up in the N. E. Monsoon time because we wanted to get to the wreck first. I heard the expedition discussed, and I joined it out of my free will. I was out of employment then. I heard no talk whatever as to the disposal of the treasure if found. I saw Mr. Ray before going in the Scotland; I do not remember seeing him come on board. I heard the notice talked over; I forgot where, whether ashore or on board. I knew that the underwriters were sitting out an expedition themselves. I do not know if it was our intention to set out without the knowledge of the underwriters. Before we started I believed some of our partners went to take legal advice on the notice; that being so the ship could not have been getting underweigh when notice was given.

Re-examined.—I have no distinct recollection of the notice, but I recollect the talk of legal advice having been taken. I first saw Capt. Roberts in Tanguo Roads. I did not see Capt. Warsaw at all.

When the Court resumed, Captain A. N. Love was examined.—I am a master mariner, and am now in the employ of Messrs. Broadbent, Anthony & Co. I remember going up the Coast in March 1875, in the Japan, belonging to Messrs. Broadbent, Anthony & Co. I was employed in the interest of Messrs. Broadbent, Anthony & Co. to search for the wreck of the Japan. I was on board the Scotland from the day the engine was found that day. Forty junks were employed in the search, twenty under Captain Holcomb, and twenty under Captain Smith. Hopkinson discovered the crank and part of a large paddle-wheel of a steamer on the 2nd April. Captain Roberts was on board at the time, and he told Captain Holcomb that his idea was that Captain Holcomb had got hold of the top of the wreck, and Captain Roberts did not claim to have found it. (The rest of this witness' evidence was confirmatory of the allegations set out in the petition.)

Captain J. H. Smith was next called, and stated that he belonged to the firm of Messrs. Broadbent, Anthony & Co. He owned the Japan and joined the Scotland expedition. This evidence was generally corroborative.

Mr. T. J. Thomas, a diver, was examined. He was engaged in searching for the wreck, and it took him 51 days to find it. He came out under engagement of the China Traders' Insurance. The hull was found about eleven miles from the paddle-wheel, and the finding of this wheel assisted them very much in discovering the hull.

This closed the evidence for the respondents, and the case was adjourned till Thursday next at 10 a.m.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.  
(Both Magistrates sitting.)  
Feb. 15, 1878.

GAMBLING.  
Lum Aing, a coolie, was fined \$2 or 10 days' hard labour for gambling at the back of the Polk Theatre.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION.  
Ng Ahok, a gardener, was fined 60 shillings or 2 months' imprisonment, for being found in unlawful possession of 58 cabbages, of which he could give no satisfactory account.

DRUNKENNESS.  
Alfred Townsend, seaman H.M. Audacious, was fined 60 cents or 2 days' imprisonment for the above offence.

A DESTITUTE.  
Adolph Hardwach, a seaman unemployed, was charged with being a destitute. The defendant stated that he went from Batavia to Manila in the American barque Chalmers, and then became sick, and the Captain paid his passage to Hongkong in the S. S. Leyla, and gave him \$4, which he had expended for his necessities. Defendant, who said he was a native of Germany, was sent to the German Consulate yesterday afternoon, and the Consul said the defendant had no papers, and nothing to prove that he was a native of Germany, and he (the Consul) could not therefore recognize him, otherwise he would readily have given assistance. The defendant has a sore hand, which would prevent his getting employment abroad. Mr. May sent him to the Captain Superintendent of Police, in order that he might be sent to the Hospital.

RESENTMENT.  
John Donnelly, a seaman belonging to the American ship Gatherv, was charged with being a deserter. He was apprehended by P. C. McKay (No. 59) and said that he had known the police were looking for him, he would have given himself up, as he wanted to see a Magistrate.

Captain Thompson, the master of the Gatherv, stated that the defendant shipped at Cardiff. The vessel arrived here on the 23rd January, and on or about the 1st instant, the defendant got leave to go on shore to see the Consul. He (the witness) could not say if he had seen the Consul or not.

The next day he came on board, and a few days later requested his discharge, saying that the Consul had no objection to his being paid off. Witness told defendant to wait a few days, and to go on with his work. The defendant again requested to see the Consul and was told that it was useless seeing the Consul again.

Defendant ran away from the ship on the night of Friday, and on Saturday witness went on shore and reported his absence to the Consul. Defendant never made any complaint of ill-treatment before arriving here. When he asked his discharge he said he had been ill-treated but did not say what manner of ill-treatment.—In reply to the defendant witness said, "I do not recollect promising you your discharge. I said it rested very much with the Consul. You never told me the Chief Officer struck you. I know you came crying to me on the 7th instant, and said something incoherently about wanting to leave the ship and wanting to see the Consul. You brought a note to me from the Consul. The note was to the effect that it would perhaps be as well to let you have your discharge. I never said to you that if it were not for the laws of Hongkong, I would hang you up by the thumbs and break your jaw. I never uttered such words.

Defendant stated that about three months after leaving Cardiff, he was scrubbing the deck, when the Chief mate called to him and said, "Jack! at first I thought the men were 'putting' on you, but what was that row you and Charley were having yesterday?" Defendant replied "only a few words about some potatoes peelings." The mate then struck him on the throat. Shortly afterwards he told the Chief Mate that he should report the matter when they reached Hongkong and get his discharge. The mate said the Captain would pay him off, as the defendant did not complain to the Captain. The blow the Chief Mate gave him did not leave a mark.

The defendant was ordered to return on board the ship, but absolutely refused to go. He was sent to jail until demanded by the Captain, or the U. S. Consul.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.  
F. Laohies, a fireman, was fined \$1 for being drunk and disorderly.

LARCENY.  
Cheng Ahung, a boatman, was committed for trial on a charge of stealing a basket containing vegetables and fish. Several previous convictions were proved against him.

UN ASAM, a fisherman, was sent to two months' hard labour for stealing a bed-quilt.

JOE IN THE COFFERS.  
Chan Aun, a tailor, was charged with being found in a dwelling house under suspicious circumstances. He was found by a woman who cried "thief," and the defendant ran away, and was pursued by the woman and a man the husband of another woman living in the same house. P. C. 281 proved seeing the defendant running away, and being pursued, but thought they were playing; subsequently, however, in consequence of what he had heard, the Constable took the defendant into custody.

Mr. Ashing, a chair coolie to the Chief Justice, said that he lived at the house in question. When he went home he knocked at the door, and his wife opened it. She stopped him and said "Why are you so late to night?" They stood there talking for some time, when a woman cried "thief." The defendant ran out, and witness seized him. In reply to the Magistrate, witness said, the woman he lived with was not his wife, but he had lived with her since the 6th moon of last year.

Leung Asee stated she lived with last witness; she had just got home, when her husband returned the defendant ran out; she never saw the defendant before.

Defendant stated that he was invited by the last witness. She told him to come. Her husband returned, and she told him to hide in the kitchen and he did so. He was not there to steal, but the first witness caught him, and he had to run.

Mr. Russell reprimanded and discharged the defendant with a caution.

THE STAMP SCHEDULE.  
Chan Ahkong, the master of the Man Shang ship, No. 27 Bonham Strand, was fined \$5 for a breach of the Stamp Act, in that he neglected to put a stamp on a receipt for \$11.25.

LARCENY.  
Tsui Aohan, a hawk, was sent to one month's hard labour for stealing fish.

Feb. 16, 1878.  
THREATENING TO ASSAULT.  
H. Jose da Costa, valetman at the Kowloon Club, was summoned at the instance of Maria Durand, an unmarried woman, for threatening to assault. After hearing the evidence, Mr. Russell ordered the defendant to enter into his personal recognisance in \$10 to keep the peace for six months.

DRUNK.  
John Sims, a Marine of the U. S. S. Ranger, was fined \$1 and to pay 50 cents arrears for damage done to the door of the cell whilst locked up last night.

DRUNK.  
F. Brancolo, a seaman unemployed, was sent to 14 days' hard labour, as a rogue and vagabond for being a destitute, having been formerly been allowed a daily allowance, which he forfeited by his misconduct.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION.  
Tee A-on was charged with being found in unlawful possession of one basket containing 19 bottles of rice.



## Portfolio.

## BOX.

The path, from porch to gate, I rim,  
In rounded clusters rising trim;  
With changeless mien I lift serene  
My small bright leaves of dusky green.

I droop not under blinding heat,  
Nor shrink from savage cold and sleet;  
When o'er me flow pale shrouds of snow,  
My patient verdure thrives below.

I cannot lure the dainty bee;  
No breeze of summer nights for me;  
In sombre mood I drowse and brood  
With memory-haunted quietude.

For though I guard a sturdy strength,  
My life has known unwonted length;  
Bright days or dark I mutely mark  
The garden's tranquil patriarch.

That white-haired lady, frail of form,  
Who seeks the porch when suns are warm,  
Has near me smiled, a blithesome child,  
With tangled ringlets tossing wild.

As years went on, with air sedate  
She met her love at yonder gate.  
I saw him bring, one night in spring,  
The precious gold betrothal-ring!

To church along this path she went,  
A twelvemonth later, well content;  
With peerless charm, in sweet alarm,  
She leaned upon her father's arm!

Again to church, when years had fled,  
In widow's dress, with bended head,  
I saw her glide, at either side,  
Her black-robed children, pensive-eyed.

These children now are dames and men,  
But I to-day am young as then;  
And yet each rose that near me blows  
Laughs lightly at my prim repose.

Ah, thistle flowers, that briefly live,  
Your giggles whippers I forgive,  
Since calmly I, as years go by,  
In damask thousands watch you die!

—Atlantic Monthly.

## MR. STANLEY AT THE CAPE.

Cape Town, Nov. 6.  
The sojourn among us of Mr. F. M. Stanley, the African explorer, fresh from his great achievements of the discovery of the course of the Luabala-Congo River, has absorbed public attention in our metropolis for the past week, almost to the exclusion of all concern regarding the Caffre disturbances on the Eastern border, now, happily, near an end.

But the event which was looked forward to with the greatest interest was Mr. Stanley's appearance at the meeting of the South African Philosophical Society, where he promised to describe his travels across the continent. The large hall of the Commercial Exchange was crowded in every part.

Mr. Stanley's address was a running narrative of his journey. With reference to the special work of trading the Congo-Luabala, he said:—When they came to Nyangwe, he asked the Arabs why that old man Livingstone and that young man Cameron had not explored the country beyond. The Arabs said that Livingstone wished to go into that country, but he had only eight men with him and they would not allow him to do so. Cameron wished to go, but his people would not go with him, and how could he go without them? Stanley had, however, a large expedition, and he told them that he intended to go. They then tried to dissuade him by telling him terrible stories of the people who were to be encountered, and the dreadful things to be found in this path. His followers, who heard these stories, began to quake and declined to proceed. He then engaged an Arab Chief and his retainers to accompany them a portion of the way. On the verge of the Cannibal Lands the Arab desert would not go further and left him. But before doing so, Mr. Stanley had asked the leader to carry his own men to an island on the river, which was done. Their adventures from this point, as given by the explorer, were listened to with thrilling interest.

"When the Arabs had seen that all the people were together on the island they bade us farewell. We got into our canoes and paddled all the people into them—men, women, children, goods, everything went into the canoes, and we began our journey down the river. Everybody was looking very sad and mournful. Not a word was uttered by anybody. I think it was the saddest time I ever experienced in Africa, but it did not last long. They soon saw what a nice thing it was to go gliding down the river, with a tall bank of thick woods on each side, and nothing but quietness and a sabbath stillness all around; nothing to do but to paddle and sing all the way down, until they began to think it was not so bad after all as they thought. They began to think, 'Before this we carried loads of goods on our shoulders and heavy loads on our heads, and our backs were sore and our feet were not so. So the second day they recovered their spirits, and had quite forgotten the cannibals and monkeys, and bonobos, and all the other things. At last we came to the cannibal lands, and the cannibals mustered in strong force. They asked us who gave us permission to go there. We said we did not know, we wanted anybody's permission. They said, 'Yes, it must be had on their river.' We said to them, 'You keep on your own side of the river. You do not claim more than half of it, we suppose. We will cling so closely to the opposite side of the river and the other bank that if you attack us you must attack the people on the other side of the river.' We started. They asked, 'Where are you going?' Down to the river to our own country. 'We never heard of anything being there. Where do you come from?' From the other side, they said. From the other side? There is none. Do you come from up there? (pointing to the clouds). 'No. How is it that we never saw or heard of anybody like you before?' I suppose it was owing to your own ignorance. (Laughter). 'Well, you must turn back. We can't allow you to go on.' I am very sorry, but I must go on. If you will allow us, we are quite willing to pay you for leave to pass. Look, and we showed them some fine gaudy clothes and corals, and beads, and polished brass wire. No, they would not have any at all. Go back, they said. But the river was not going back, and all the time we were talking we went along with the current, and while other natives were coming down, until we got into another country. The people of the place came out in their canoes. This was on the frontier of the cannibal lands. They maintained similar conversation with us. They said, 'You pass us to-day without fighting, but wait till to-morrow. That

king does not allow anybody to go down, and if he refuses there is nobody who can stand before him.' Well, we said, 'if we must be killed why shall we be killed? but we shall go on.' Next day we went on as before. This king came out to meet us with 14 canoes. They looked ridiculously small to come against our canoes. We fired and cut the water all around the canoe, and he did not see the balls pass through the water. This frightened him, and he retired without our having to fire a shot at him. The king at the next place had 28 canoes. He sounded the war drum, and came up in excellent style. His people hurled spears at us, and we were obliged to kill some people. This was the first time we did so. By dint of some sharp fighting we cleared the track.

A couple of hours further on 30 or 40 canoes came out against us. The people in the canoes had bows and arrows and spears, and we got two of our men wounded with arrows, and one man was hurt by a spear. Some of these men had also knives. The war-sound on both banks of the river. The third party came in in strong force, and tried hard several times to pierce our column. We cleared the track for a fourth time until the sun set, and then we thought that in order to get rid of these abominations of ants that swarmed about us we would hide on an island and have one good sleep. We did so, and I am glad to say we slept comfortably enough that night. Next day another big fight took place at 10 o'clock, and there was another at 2 o'clock, and a third attack at 6, besides another at 8 o'clock, when we managed to get to sleep. At last we came to the Equator. Livingstone said that this river was the Nile. It is south and north of the Equator where the true strength of the cannibals lies. Then we had six cataraets to contend with. Next we tried the left bank but to go on was simply impossible. Down below us were the cataraets. We could not row back on account of the stream being so swift, and besides that, we should have had to fight again with these people. There was only one way—to show our manliness and die. (Cheers). So I sent four canoes on up the river, and they landed half their crews. Half had orders to go behind into the forest, while we attacked them in the front, and they opened in the rear. This was done only just in time, for the cataraets were roaring close by us. Having gained a footing, we got down towards them, and made a landing on a camp. In the night we threw out scouts and out a road, and laid down sticks and rollers. Then we built a camp at the extreme end of this track, and at early dawn we drew these canoes of ours over these sticks or rollers to the next stage. We had a second camp, where we rested. Next night we went on the same way, and so on. We went a road by night, and at sunrise we began to draw the canoes into the second camp. That we did for 26 days, night and day relieving each other, my companion looking after the parties by night and I taking charge of the reliefs by day. In these 26 days we had gone 13 geographical miles and passed six cataraets. Then the river began to turn north-west, and goes on so to 2 deg. lat. N. Then it turns with a mighty sweep towards the west, and goes in a course forming a zig-zag line. At long 33 deg. it turns down to the south-west; the river by this time was from two to ten miles wide. When we had reached long 16 deg. the lower series of cataraets began, 62 in number. We had already had 32 fights before we reached these cataraets, and we were five months going from cataraet to cataraet, sometimes hauling our canoes up mountain steep 2,000 ft. high, assisted, of course, by friendly natives. They were cannibals in long 26, but not in long 16, 23, or 24. All this part was friendly. Here and there you might meet with a martial tribe, perhaps, which would attack you, but it is along long 28 till you begin to turn west that the character of the people inspires terror in the minds of strangers. These were the people who stop Arabs coming from the north and from the south, otherwise they would have met some months ago. During the five months we were getting over the cataraets we lost a great many people, a good deal of property, and many canoes. As fast as we lost the latter we built new ones, whenever we could get the assistance of friendly natives. Had it not been for this we should never have been able to get along. I negotiated with the various kings and chiefs for assistance, which was readily given, and many of these people were most orderly and decently behaved. Very often they would not approach us till they were invited, and even then they showed every sign of deference and respect, very different from the turbulent tribes of cannibals we had seen previously. In return for food and so on they gave us the help of five or six hundred men to haul our canoes, and after passing 13 cataraets, losing 19 men by drowning, 19 canoes, a large quantity of ivory, beads, cloth, and wire, we came to the place where Captain Tuckey left off in 1816. (Cheers). We had now travelled over 6,800 miles, and I had lost three white men, and over 258 natives. Having arrived 6,800 miles from Zanzibar, I lifted my faithful boat and all the canoes high on the rocks, and told the chief, 'Now I have done with these. Take care of them. I will send other white men, but now I am going to out across to Boma.' After all our troubles and vicissitudes on the terrible river, we still had other difficulties of another kind to surmount. We came among a people who had been in the habit of receiving ruinous bribes. If a merchant wanted to get a bargain out of the people for an advantage over his brother merchant he bribes them with rum. Captain Burton wanted to go from Boma as far as here, but he gave it up in despair on account of the rum demanded from him. Captain Tuckey makes a general trail on account of the rum-drinking propensities of the people, and he lost 38 Europeans and 18 natives in three months. You may call that fatality if you like, for he only went a very short distance. Well, I came along with my expedition, and they were indeed surprised to see us; they would not believe we had come from the other sea; they would have it we had come from the westward. Rum was demanded, but of course we had none. I only wished we had, for my people were worn out and famished, and a little rum would have cheered us up, and made us feel we were approaching civilization. (Laughter). The chief refused to allow us to pass unless we gave him rum, and came and sat down in a big chair, with the smaller chiefs round him and put on all the dignity imaginable. I called my faithful Ouladi, the cox-swain and said to him, 'Do you know what this man wants?' He replied, 'No, master. I said, 'He wants rum.' 'That's rum,' he said, and thereupon gave the King a clout in the face, and he tumbled over and all his dignity with him, and that settled the question. (Laughter). There was no more rum.

said good, bad, or indifferent, and the rum-drinking business was nipped in the bud by Ouladi, who settled the matter completely to my satisfaction. The old chief got up, rubbed his cheek, said it was an awfully hard blow, but allowed us to pass along.

Mr. Stanley went on to say that three days from Boma the condition of his people was desperate; they were on the brink of starvation. He selected three of his strongest and best young men, and sent them on to Boma, with a request for rice and fish, and a few baskets of other food. His people were rejoiced at getting near the end of their journey, and tried to keep up their spirits. They said, 'Oh, master, we will eat our clothes tightly round our waists, so that we shall forget our hunger, and we will walk and walk until we see the white man.' But he believed that few of them thought that they would see the white man. They were settling down to a gloomy despair 30 miles from Boma, starvation was staring them in the face, and many of his people could not have lasted much longer. Suddenly the cry was raised, 'Oh, master, here are lots of men coming; lots of clothes and lots of food.' And indeed it was so. The men had reached Boma, and without delay a relief party was sent, with fish and rice and everything that was required. His men furiously rubbed at the fish, and did not want to cook it. There was for him a small parcel of dainties, and beer, wine and champagne. The pots were placed on the fire, the rice was cooked, and the lives of the people were saved. Mr. Stanley described how the rage of his men, venerable relics of that great march through Africa, were replaced with clothes, how a joyous party came out to receive him from Boma, how splendidly he was received by the Portuguese, how he reached St. Paul de Loando, and from there came on by the *Industria* to the Cape. He had great doubts, as he told the commander of the *Industria*, whether the people of the Cape of Good Hope had ever heard of Stanley, and he was perfectly astonished on his arrival in Simon's Bay to be received by the aide-de-camp of the officer in command of the naval forces, with an invitation to be Commodore Sullivan's guest during the stay in Simon's Bay. He thought this extraordinary, but after he came on shore and saw the face of the Commodore, he ceased to doubt. There was a cordial geniality and genuine hospitality in all that Commodore Sullivan did (cheers), at the fervent grasp of the hand with which he was received, he felt at once that he was in the presence of a true Englishman.

## TERRIBLY PIOUS.

The papers swarm with advertisements of persons wanting servants and offering as the great inducement a home in a pious family. Do the pious families exact less work, are young men admitted with greater freedom, is the food more copious, is any washing done at home, does the mistress assist in the cleaning, does the master never come home cross and swear at the underdone mutton or the burnt-up pie-crust? Piety like charity covers a multitude of sins, and does away with the necessity for the mildest medium of dissipation. Pious cooks will make away with the dripping or secure unconscionable perquisites; pious butlers have been found drunk with their masters' wine; and pious bankers have been detected in gigantic frauds. Piety, therefore, is sometimes compatible with undue appreciation of the goods of this world—or, in other words, with dishonesty.

Pious people invariably are blessed with a comfortable sense of their own excellences. If an unfortunate man gets into difficulties and his family run the risk of starving, it is because he was not of the holy army of the pious; if he loses the nearest and dearest to him, it is a judgment of Providence on his sins; if he be stricken down by illness, or otherwise deprived of comfort and happiness, it is the curse that hangs over the wicked. From the shaker of their pillow, the pious can afford to moan over the weak and erring exposed to the pitiless blasts of sorrow and adversity or the perishing fangs of poverty. For, curiously enough, with piety there goes generally a smug smoothness of easy circumstances that hides such members calmly over the shoals and currents of life. If it is good to be pious, it is decidedly, as a rule, for those of a certain class of nature, pleasant also. Orthodoxy is my dory, and heterodoxy is everyone else's dory. The truly pious hug themselves in the belief that they are not as others are, and thank Heaven accordingly. One of the great features of the pious person's creed is the unmitigated blessing of belonging to the land of the living. There is also a particular kind of piety largely enjoyed by the pious, and that is the admiration of scandal in ordinary conversation. It is right and refreshing to animadvert on others' peculiarities and shortcomings, and gives a peculiar zest to the otherwise dry monotony of every-day duties. Pious people cannot understand temptation, for they have never been tempted; to betray one's principles from over-heating love for another, to show weakness in chastisement, from misguided affection to shield another at the price of one's own good name—these are anomalies impossible for piety to fathom. The straight, broad line of duty lies so clearly before them that mystic vagaries are to them incomprehensible. They have no room for poetry, no room for imagination, no room for conventionalism, for imagination must be based on fact or on struggle, courage must not flag, nor the beckonings of nature allure; it is as easy to be good, in their sense of the word, as wicked.

The truth is, piety is not religion; and chiefly from this difference, that in piety there is no heart. Real religion feels deeply, and consequently sympathizes deeply. The piety of society never feels at all. It echoes feelings as the elder Mill did sentiment, and feasts on the sense of its own worthlessness. Consequently piety is as alien to us as love. Piety does not concern itself with the sorrows of the erring; it has enough to do to pat the virtuous on the back. It can never heal the breaches or minister to the woes of society, for it is a narrow and vindictive paragon. Thus it is in all things, from the bobbing of a shoe to the government of a nation, the pious alone consider themselves competent to judge the actions of others and to recognize the main principles of everyone's motives. The gods of the pious are but too often selfishness and hardness; but they must be served, or we are morally destroyed by their devotees. Even the charity of the pious is doled out with the favouring of a sword displeasure that serves to make the bread bitter in the mouth of the recipient, while the judgment of these good people is invariably measured by their peculiar idiosyncrasies. It is doubtful whether the

salvation of souls is secured by these great professors of piety; it is certain that the happiness of families and of the world at large is not increased by them. Did anyone ever look with other than disgust on the pattern piety child; who only smiles with the corners of his mouth, never does anything wrong, never enjoys the sun and the flowers and the bright blue sky unreservedly as other young things do, who talks much of sin and Satan and the temptations of the world, and who thus perverts the beauty and innocent sweetness of childhood have well deserved the epithet of the terribly pious.

## SOME RAMBLING NOTES OF AN IDLE EXCURSION.

By MARK TWAIN.

(From the Atlantic Monthly.)

The next day, in New York, was a hot one. Still we managed to get more or less entertainment out of it. Toward the middle of the afternoon we arrived on board the staunch steamship *Bermuda*, with bag and baggage, and hunted for a shady place. It was blazing summer weather, until we were half-way down the harbor. Then I buttoned my coat closely; half an hour later I put on a spring overcoat and buttoned that. As we passed the light-house I added an ulster and tied a handkerchief around the collar to hold it snug to my neck. So rapidly had the summer gone and winter come again!

By nightfall we were far out at sea, with no land in sight. No telegrams could come here, no letters, no news. This was an uplifting thought. It was still more uplifting to reflect that the millions of harassed people on shore behind us were suffering just as usual.

The next day brought us into the midst of the Atlantic solitude—out of smoke-colored soundings into fathomless deep blue; no ships visible anywhere over the wide ocean; no company but Mother Cary's chickens wheeling, darting, skimming the waves in the sun. There were some seafaring men among the passengers, and conversation drifted into matters concerning ships and sailors. One said that "a true sailor, since the needle pointed to the pole, he said a ship's compass was not infallible for any particular point, but was the most fickle and treacherous of the servants of man. It was for ever changing. It changed every day in the year; consequently the amount of the daily variation had to be ascertained and allowance made for it, else the mariner would go utterly astray. Another said there was a vast fortune waiting for the genius who should invent a compass that would not be affected by the local influences of an iron ship. He said there was 'only one creature more fickle than a wooden ship's compass, and that was the compass of an iron ship. Then came reference to the well-known fact that an experienced mariner can look at the compass of a new iron vessel, thousands of miles from his birthplace, and tell which way her head was pointing when she was in process of building."

Now an ancient ship-master fell to talking about the sort of crews they used to have in his early days. Said he:—"Sometimes we'd have a batch of college students. Quer lot! Ignorant! Why, they didn't know the catheads from the main brace. But if you took them for fools you'd get bit, sure. They'd learn more in a month than another man would in a year. We had one once in the *Mary Ann* that came aboard with gold spectacles on. And besides, he was rigged out from main trunk to keelson in the noblest clothes that ever saw a fo'castle. He had a chest full, too; cloaks, and broadcloth coats, and velvet vests; everything swell, you know; and didn't the salt water fix them out for him? I guess not! Well, going to sea, the mate told him to go aloft and help shake out the fore-top, with his spectacles on, and in a minute, down he comes again, looking insulted. Says the mate, 'What did you come down for?' Says the chap, 'P'raps you didn't notice that there ain't no ladder above there.' You see we hadn't any shrouds above the fore-top. The men bursted out in a laugh such as I guess you never heard the like of. Next night, which was dark and rainy, the mate ordered this chap to go aloft about something, and I'm dummed if he didn't start up with an umbrella and a lantern! But no matter; he made a mighty good sailor before the voyage was done, and we had to hunt up something else to laugh at. Years after, when I forgot all about him, I came into Boston, met a ship, and was looking around town with the second mate, and it happened that we stepped into the Revere House, thinking maybe we would chance the salt-horn in that big dining-room for a flyer, as the boys say. Some fellows were talking just at our elbow, and one says, 'Yonder's the new governor of Massachusetts—at that table over there, with the ladies.' We took a good look, my mate and I, for we hadn't either of us ever seen a governor before. I looked and looked at that face, and there all of a sudden it popped on me! But I didn't give any sign. Says I, 'Mate, I've a notion to go over and shake hands with him.' Says he, 'I think I see you doing it, Tom.' Says I, 'Mate, I'm a-going to do it.' Says he, 'Well, yes, go over and shake hands with him, but don't you tell him you're the mate.' I don't mind going a V on it, mate,' says he. 'Put it up.' Up she goes, says I, plunking the cash. This surprised him. But he covered it, and says, pretty sarcastic, 'Hain't you better take your grub with the governor and the ladies, Tom?' Says I, 'Upon second thoughts, I will.' Says he, 'Well, Well, Tom, you are a dum fool.' Says I, 'May be I am, may be I ain't; but the main question is, Do you want to risk two and a half that I won't do it?' Make it a V, says he. 'Done,' says I. I started, him a-giggling and slapping his hand on his thigh; he felt so good. I went over there and leaned my knuckles on the table a minute and looked at the governor in the face, and says I, 'Mister Gardner, don't you know me?' He stared at it a second, and then said, 'Then all of a sudden he steps out. Tom Bowling, by the way, you've heard me talk about,—whipmate of mine in the *Mary Ann*. He rises up and shook hands with me ever so hearty. I sort of glanced around and took a realising glance of my mate's saucer eyes,—and then says the governor, 'Plant yourself, Tom, plant yourself; you can't eat your anchor again till you've had a feed with me and the ladies.' I planted myself alongside the governor, and canted my eyes around towards my mate. Well, sir, his dandruff was bagged out like tompons; and his mouth stood that wide open that you could

have laid a ham in it without him noticing it. At length a conversation sprang up about that important and jealously guarded instrument, a ship's time-keeper, its exceeding delicate accuracy, and the wreck and destruction that have sometimes resulted from its varying a few seconds; trifling moments from the true time. Then, at last, my comrade the Reverend, got off on a yarn, with a fair wind and everything drawing. It was a true story, too,—about Captain Ronciville's shipwreck,—true in every detail. It was to this effect:—

Captain Ronciville's vessel was lost in mid-Atlantic, and likewise his wife and his two little children. Captain Ronciville and seven seamen escaped with life, but with little else. A small, rudely constructed raft was to be their home for eight days. They had neither provisions nor water. They had scarcely any clothing; no one had a coat but the captain. This coat was made of heavy old cloth, and the time for the coat was exhausted with the cold, they put the coat on him and laid him down between two shipmates until the garment and their bodies had warmed life into him again. Among the sailors was a Portuguese who knew no English. He seemed to have no thought of his own calamity, but was concerned only about the captain's bitter loss of wife and children. By day, he would look his dumb compassion in the captain's face; and by night, in the darkness and the driving spray and rain, he would seek out the captain and try to comfort him with caressing hands on the shoulder. One day, when hunger and thirst were making their sure inroads upon the men's strength and spirits, a floating barrel was seen at a distance. It seemed a great find, for doubtless it contained food of some sort. A brave fellow swam to it, and after long and exhausting effort got it to the raft. It was eagerly opened. It was a barrel of mackerel! On the fifth day an onion was spied. A sailor swam off and got it. Although perishing with hunger, he brought it in its integrity and put it into the captain's hand. The history of the sea teaches that among starving shipwrecked men, selfishness is rare, and wonder-compelling magnanimity the rule. The onion was equally divided into eight parts, and eaten with deep thanksgivings. On the eighth day a distant ship was sighted. Attempts were made to hoist a signal, but Captain Ronciville's coat on the raft for a signal. There were many failures, for the men were but skeletons now, and strengthless. At last a signal was achieved, but the signal brought no help. The ship faded out of sight and left despair behind her. By-and-by another ship appeared, and passed so near that the castaways, every eye eloquent with gratitude, made ready to welcome the boat that would be sent to save them. But this ship also drove on, and left these men staring their unutterable surprise and dismay into each other's ashen faces. Late in the day, still another ship came up out of the distance, but the men noted with a pang that her course was one which would not bring her nearer. Their remnant of life was nearly spent; their lips and tongues were swollen, parched, cracked, with eight days' thirst; their bodies starved and emaciated; their last chance gliding relentlessly from them; they would not be alive when the next sun rose. For a day or two past the men had lost their voices, but now Captain Ronciville whispered, 'Let us pray.' The Portuguese patted him on the shoulders in sign of deep approval. All knelt at the base of the oak that was waving the signal-coat aloft, and bowed their heads. The sea was tossing; the sun reared, a red, rayless disk, on the sea-line in the west. When the men presently raised their heads they would have roared a halloo; if they had had a voice: the ship's sails lay wrinkled and flapping against her masts; she was going about! Here was rescue at last, and in the very last instant of time that was left for her. No ray of hope yet, only the imminent prospect of death. The red disk sank under the sea, and darkness blotted out the ship. By-and-by came a pleasant sound—oars moving in a boat's rowlocks. Nearer it came, and nearer,—within thirty steps, but nothing visible. Then a deep voice: 'Ho! ho! The castaways could not answer; their swollen tongues refused voice. The boat skirted round and round the raft, started away—the agony of it!—returned, rested the oars, close at hand, listening, no doubt. The deep voice again, 'Ho! ho! Where are ye, shipmates?' Captain Ronciville whispered to his men, saying, 'Whisper your best boy, now—all at once!' So they sent out an eight-fold whisper in hoarse concert, 'Here!' There was a light in it if it succeeded; death if it failed. After that supreme moment Captain Ronciville was conscious of nothing until he came to himself on board the saving ship. Said the Reverend, concluding:—

There was one little moment of time in which that raft could be visible from that ship, and only one. If that one little fleeting moment had passed unfruitful, those men's doom was sealed. As close as that does God have events forestalled from the beginning of the world? When the sun reached the water's edge that day, the captain of that ship was sitting on deck reading his prayer-book. The book fell, he stooped to pick it up, and happened to glance at the sun. In that instant that far-off raft appeared for a second against the red disk, its needle-like oars and its signal out sharp and black against the bright surface and in the next instant was thrust away into the dark again. But that ship, that captain, and that pregnant instant had their work appointed for them in the dawn of time, and would not fall of the performance. The chronometer of God never errs!

## LONDON GOSSIP.

The Royal naval cadets, Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, were when on their way home for the Christmas holidays, the heroes of an adventure that treated a little excitement among those who witnessed it. The *Britannia's* cadets are about the liveliest body of passengers the Great Western Railway get in the course of a year. Exeter being the first station after leaving Dartmouth at which they stop, a few moments, the cadets generally make their brief stay a period of some amusement. At various times the officials have been those at whose expense the cadets have had their fun, and consequently the "young gentlemen" have made an impression upon the porters and others who are on the platform. Prince Albert and Prince George preceded the general body this year, but they too, seem to have found on the Exeter station as a fair field for amusement, and a post-shooter and a good supply of peas were the materials with

which they amused themselves. An unfortunate porter, finding his ears well peppered with peas, and suddenly discovering the offenders, threatened Prince Albert Victor with a very considerable amount of earnestness. 'I'll screw you, you see, you young rascal, if you don't stop that,' moaned the amusement of the pair, who, however, took very good care to get back speedily to their carriage without giving the outraged official an opportunity of carrying out his threat.

A new improvement, as it is called, but a new horror as we call it, is about to be added to the telephone. This is an arrangement to be called the phonograph, and by every action of the speaker's lips, every stop and stammer, every blunder and bungle will be jotted down automatically on a sheet of paper, to state as in the face to all time. It is bad enough to have one's speech reported verbatim, but to have it photographed, as it were, will be cause for madness.

The following anecdote is told of the late Field-Marshal Von Wrangel:—"What is your name, sir?" he asked once, on a general inspection, of an ensign conspicuous for his stately figure. "Von Kendlall," answered the young officer. "Were you born at Pockelwitz?" "No, sir." "Do you buy your horses at Pockelwitz?" "No, sir." "Two years later the ensign had become a lieutenant, and is still honoured with the attention of the Field-Marshal. "What is your name, sir?" "Von Kendlall." "Were you born at Pockelwitz?" "No, sir." "Do you buy your horses at Pockelwitz?" "No, sir." Two years later, the lieutenant was a captain. Again came the Field-Marshal. "What is your name, sir?" he began. But this time the captain: "My name is Von Kendlall. I was not born at Pockelwitz, and I don't buy my horses there." The Field-Marshal, agast with bewilderment:—"Wonderful! That captain answers my questions even before my putting them!—a first-class officer. Let him be a major!"

Vanity Fair says that if an English officer in Malta gets into trouble with the civil authorities, he is brought before a court composed entirely of English officers. The whole case is conducted in a foreign language; the English officer's word of honour goes for nothing; a whole crowd of native witnesses can perjure the propositors' charges, and are implacably believed. In Constantinople, the home of the "unspeakable Turk," an Englishman is tried by Englishmen in English; but in Malta, our own possession, he is tried by foreigners in a strange tongue.

Miss Ryland, who has already presented Birmingham with two public parks, one at Canon Hill and the other at Small Heath, representing together over a hundred acres of wooded land, has expressed her desire to contribute 4,000l. towards the laying out of the last-named park, in addition to 10,000l. which she has already expended upon the embellishment of the former. Her offer has been accepted by the Birmingham Town Council. It is stated that the value of Miss Ryland's benefactions to the town now amounts to about 100,000l.

Cap. J. A. Langens, of the Danish vessel *Lutetia*, communicates to a Copenhagen paper an interesting account of a novel experience which occurred on Dec. 10, 1876, while on a voyage to Valparaiso. The vessel was at this time in the neighbourhood of Terra del Fuego, about 140 miles from Magellan's Straits, when early in the morning it narrowly escaped collision with an island where no traces of land appeared on the charts. The vessel hove-to until daylight, when the captain proceeded with a boat's crew to the new island, which had gradually diminished in size since the first observation. Around the conical rocky mass the water was heaving, and although no smoke appeared, it was found to be too highly heated to permit of landing. The smoking continued slowly, until at eight o'clock the island was completely submerged, and an hour later the vessel passed over the spot where it disappeared. This volcanic island is probably due to the same causes which have produced the recent severe earthquakes on the west coast of South America.

The Americans, not satisfied with outdoing all other modern nations in matters of bigness, are girding at the ancients. The thought of the Colossus of Rhodes was long a sore point with them; so now they have engaged a French artist to "build" them a statue, "Liberty Lighting the World," which is to be used as a lighthouse in New York harbour. Some idea of its size may be had from the fact that the artist of the statue is quite as big as the boiler of a locomotive. By a pleasant fiction the statue is to be looked upon as the gift of the French people to the American nation.

The artificial gem sensation has not subsided under the London jewellers' expression of contempt. It is claimed for the French experimenters that they have made real, not fictitious, rubies and sapphires, and that they are as hard as the native stones; and that, though the manufacturers have not yet succeeded in getting quite the perfect brilliancy of nature's crystals, even that is attainable. The process, which is of some interest, is described in the *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Sciences* Française of Dec. 3.

Corundum, we are told, is merely alumina (oxide of aluminium, the basis of clay) in crystalline form; ruby is the variety of the same coloured by the presence of small quantities of metallic oxides. Alumina can easily be obtained, and Messrs. Frémy and Fell have succeeded in crystallising it by exposing it to the action of a furnace under certain conditions for twenty days. When pure alumina was used, crystals of corundum were obtained; when oxide of cobalt and a trace of bichromate of potash were added, sapphires; and when 2 to 3 per cent. of bichromate of potash, rubies. The experimenters, no doubt, expect in time not only to make artificial gems that will equal in brilliancy the natural but excel it; at the same time those who possess gems of priceless worth must be excused for believing that nature's gems, like nature's flowers, are not to be eclipsed by the most clever and successful French artificers.

Vipers.—When vipers observe danger, the old one will make a hissing noise, upon which the young ones will at once wriggle themselves down her throat. The viper is a venomous reptile, but is quite harmless, except when attacked, when it (if closely pressed) will turn at bay, and spring itself in the form of a rainbow, and spring itself at a distance of four or five feet. It has two fangs on each side of its head, and the roof of its mouth is a poisonous matter, which it exudes when it bites. It is not easily killed, for it has been seen to wriggle five or six bodies after having its head cut off.